

THE MONARCHY

OF

THE MIDDLE CLASSES.

FRANCE

SOCIAL, LITERARY, POLITICAL,

SECOND SERIES.

BY HENRY LYTTON BULWER, Esq. M.P.

Nature and truth are the same every where, and reason shows them every where alike. But the accidents and other causes, which give rise and growth to opinions both in speculation and practice, are of infinite variety.

Bolingbroke on the true Use of Retirement and Study.

Reverere conditores Deos, numina Deorum. Reverere gloriam veterem, et hanc ipsam senectutem quæ in homine venerabilis, in urbibus sacra est. Sit apud te honor antiquitati, sit ingentibus facti, sit fabulis quoque, nihil ex cujusquam dignitate, nihil ex libertate, nihil etiam ex jactatione decerpseris.

Plinius Maximo Suo S.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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PUBLIC ACQUAITS, AND RECOURS TO
PRIVATE DWELLINGS AT PARIS

FOR THE YEAR 1882.

NUMERICAL STATEMENT OF THE INDIGENT POPULATION OF PARIS,

AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION RESPECTING THE SAME.

DETAILS OF INFORMATION.		ARRONDISSEMENTS.												TOTAL
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
GENERAL POPULATION OF PARIS, according to the census of 1881.		66,793	74,773	49,853	44,736	67,756	88,911	59,415	72,909	42,941	83,127	50,227	77,450	770,886
INDIGENT POPULATION OF PARIS.		3,850	3,033	2,206	1,759	5,187	8,722	4,130	10,474	4,844	3,770	4,341	12,294	68,296
Proportion of the indigent to the general Population		¹ / _{101,276}	¹ / _{124,653}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}	¹ / _{121,885}
INDIGENT FAMILIES	Annually	1,099	820	738	624	1,903	2,770	1,745	2,328	1,870	1,737	1,285	3,581	30,301
	Temporarily	567	658	440	1,133	324	1,601	210	1,778	481	1,172	920	2,238	11,442
Total.		1,666	1,478	1,178	1,757	2,229	3,740	2,025	4,316	2,351	2,909	2,205	5,819	41,743
INDIVIDUALS COMPOSING INDIGENT FAMILIES	Men	673	679	572	854	1,214	1,970	984	2,432	1,707	1,984	1,638	3,690	16,167
	Women	1,306	1,319	1,057	1,553	1,966	3,120	1,713	3,054	2,036	2,599	1,856	5,102	25,821
INDIGENT FAMILIES	Boys	717	484	414	669	959	1,433	689	2,045	733	967	679	2,282	12,026
	Girls	700	551	463	634	1,028	1,494	734	2,113	895	909	608	2,420	12,702
Total.		3,816	3,033	2,066	3,263	3,765	5,187	8,222	4,130	4,844	5,750	4,411	12,894	68,566
CIVIL CONDITION, OR SOCIAL SITUATION OF THE HEADS OF INDIGENT FAMILIES	Married Persons	710	539	475	713	1,017	1,584	795	2,011	928	1,416	785	2,500	13,773
	Bachelors	736	534	401	599	817	1,503	914	1,683	1,041	1,243	887	2,115	12,755
INDIGENT FAMILIES	Divorced Women	140	247	173	240	329	453	252	438	329	345	485	765	3,350
	Unmarried men	51	35	46	110	39	209	93	164	83	25	145	334	1,225
BIRTH OF THE HEADS OF INDIGENT FAMILIES	Born in Paris	418	396	293	448	580	1,201	551	1,384	640	771	598	2,151	9,595
	Born out of Paris, unmarried, or married out of Paris, or widowers whose place of marriage is unknown	592	878	193	290	256	633	328	878	592	483	776	924	8,466
Under the age of 60		656	604	699	1,019	1,323	1,905	1,144	2,007	1,365	1,677	1,331	2,776	16,658
AGE OF THE HEADS OF INDIGENT FAMILIES	Orphans	796	613	594	917	1,436	338	523	1,172	1,378	693	310	1,541	13,411
	from 60 to 64 years	1	23	9	19	3	55	31	35	15	89	30	172	427
INDIGENT FAMILIES	from 65 to 74 years	409	287	166	279	574	497	283	482	314	418	236	581	2,779
	from 75 to 79 years	130	135	74	104	175	252	176	225	155	195	271	412	2,161
INDIGENT FAMILIES	from 80 to 89 years	8	63	45	45	75	101	69	115	55	83	72	91	831
	Above 90 years of age	2	5	1	1	4	4	1	4	1	4	2	3	21
Above 100 years of age		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
INDIGENT FAMILIES BURDENED WITH CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE.	1 Child	84	77	61	155	143	271	94	389	169	163	138	497	2,217
	2 Children	111	95	91	172	141	346	169	439	229	209	142	598	2,520
FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS.	3 Children	237	149	107	175	202	493	205	575	311	248	169	559	2,584
	4 Children and above	104	71	72	69	182	171	69	291	86	148	94	369	1,513
Total		1,137	1,094	841	1,185	1,539	2,559	1,471	2,531	1,662	2,149	1,662	3,875	21,510
RENTS OF THE HOUSINGS OF INDIGENT FAMILIES	50 fr. and under	181	120	65	124	203	321	231	816	375	390	270	940	4,995
	51 to 100 fr.	658	493	485	585	914	1,367	878	2,151	1,070	1,235	919	2,083	11,922
INDIGENT FAMILIES	101 to 200 fr.	914	605	350	626	612	898	447	517	437	230	497	812	5,566
	201 to 300 fr.	12	30	13	15	13	44	10	29	12	13	23	35	231
INDIGENT FAMILIES	301 to 400 fr.	9	8	5	56	8	6	—	2	1	3	3	91	136
	Above 400 fr.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
INDIGENT FAMILIES	Lodges free of rent as porters	118	269	143	143	389	534	266	520	260	489	266	734	4,184
	Without trade	167	170	132	205	138	242	188	210	180	160	235	325	2,378
MEN	Bag-collectors	15	—	3	2	8	4	9	9	9	—	4	67	138
	Carriers	50	23	16	5	29	25	1	41	15	38	17	49	315
MEN	Messengers	41	54	50	95	105	109	26	61	52	60	17	91	495
	Shoemakers	31	37	38	112	73	169	68	79	60	65	71	150	914
MEN	Acid driers	19	12	7	12	12	6	3	7	6	10	7	9	83
	Acid agents and clerks	8	7	11	28	29	32	11	12	24	17	10	56	243
MEN	Charles Salomon	13	12	20	60	69	96	75	90	75	24	38	101	713
	Butchers' laborers	72	71	70	53	138	229	39	385	147	107	123	485	1,284
MEN	Journeymen of various trades	390	298	153	224	409	854	333	1,132	514	591	347	1,428	5,335
	Water-carriers	2	16	8	25	15	17	19	13	13	10	24	54	252
MEN	Porters	124	126	98	89	79	147	120	157	121	106	167	902	1,236
	Children	11	7	11	11	11	8	11	13	13	13	5	31	151
MEN	Tailors	18	30	33	115	34	69	32	41	36	30	30	31	469
	Without trade	74	74	75	65	70	167	147	169	113	215	130	108	1,443
MEN	Washerwomen	84	28	19	61	31	36	23	94	63	67	39	177	692
	Bag-collectors	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	39
MEN	Acid servants	29	6	9	—	11	8	5	5	17	19	11	19	160
	Charwomen	88	129	66	61	61	37	69	37	69	127	155	92	1,064
WOMEN	Children's nurses	19	14	10	4	17	20	7	32	13	19	9	218	118
	Sick nurses	9	18	8	12	11	18	18	19	27	10	10	19	164
WOMEN	Vendors of Female Apparel	65	63	43	134	116	212	171	184	75	110	68	227	1,060
	Newelwomen	118	147	87	220	148	312	168	234	147	203	136	576	2,490
WOMEN	Workwomen of various trades	255	100	148	114	405	440	177	954	244	419	283	787	4,252
	Water-carriers	1	3	—	3	2	9	3	4	3	2	6	12	50
WOMEN	Porters and Basket makers	35	44	34	56	62	34	37	66	34	36	32	122	809
	Without trade or business	114	222	183	156	304	506	382	279	351	694	333	520	4,059
PAUPERS RECEIVING SPECIAL HELP	Octogenarians	56	67	36	33	89	120	83	127	63	100	99	131	1,017
	Septuagenarians	110	111	87	160	155	265	168	256	149	197	162	369	2,809
PAUPERS	Hexagenarians	15	10	10	25	36	37	30	51	37	38	28	404	484
	Infants	2	4	8	17	8	9	4	5	7	9	11	14	102
Total.		763	192	141	155	386	451	294	585	327	362	399	554	3,702

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2nd TABLE SOLDIERS CLASSÉD UNDER THE DESIGNATION BY WHICH THEY ENGAGED IN THE ARMY

		SCHEDULE OF THE SPECIFIED NUMBER OF SOLDIERS									
		Number of soldiers tried	CONDEMNED.							Total of columns 3 to 9, equaling the number of soldiers condemned.	Total of columns 10, 11, and 12, equaling the number of soldiers brought to trial
			To death	To forced labour	To solitary confinement	To drag the shot	To public works.	To imprisonment	To various places, as being the only consequence		
Soldiers voluntarily enlisted	for desertion	2,219	33	161	40	10	299	941	1,569	4	706
	for other offences	771	4	1	1	12	216	231	464	3	394
Recruits	for desertion	922	9	64	33	7	56	437	613	2	277
	for other offences	450	13	1	3	2	25	12	310	..	170
Substitutes	for desertion	1,181	19	144	47	8	247	907	1,362	4	505
	for other offences	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,871
Peuple of the military colleges	for desertion	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	for other offences	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gagistes	for desertion	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	for other offences	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total		6,858	93	391	130	308	1,149	2,536	4,627	14	2,217
Natives of conquered countries		75	13	4	2	..	3	6	28	..	47
Grand Total		6,933	106	395	132	308	1,152	2,562	4,655	14	2,264

2nd TABLE SOLDIERS CLASSÉD UNDER THE DENOMINATION IN THE SERVICE TO WHICH THEY BELONGED, AT THE TIME OF THEIR BEING BROUGHT TO TRIAL

Infantry of the line, and light companies	3,909	56	247	73	213	667	1,558	2,416	8	1,172	4,996
Cavalry	628	9	35	13	22	60	227	366	..	260	626
Artillery	933	1	31	16	21	58	134	316	1	176	934
Engineers	97	1	7	4	2	11	40	65	..	32	97
Wagon train	50	..	3	1	1	5	8	18	..	32	50
Garrisons and cantonnements	398	..	15	1	1	13	79	109	2	87	398
Gendarmes	15	..	..	..	..	2	6	..	..	7	15
Depôts for recruits	513	..	..	..	2	49	253	303	2	207	513
Battalions of light infantry for Africa	43	3	5	2	..	18	5	..	..	12	43
Foreign legion and Zouaves	324	12	18	8	1	106	58	204	..	120	324
Discipline companies	383	9	26	8	9	16	133	293	..	80	383
Yards for public labours and arsenals	129	1	6	..	33	52	5	97	1	22	129
Total		6,858	93	391	130	308	1,149	2,536	4,627	14	2,217
Natives of conquered countries		75	13	4	2	..	3	6	28	..	47
Grand Total		6,933	106	395	132	308	1,152	2,562	4,655	14	2,264

4th TABLE SOLDIERS CLASSÉD ACCORDING TO THE RANK WHICH THEY HELD ON THE DAY ON WHICH THEY WERE BROUGHT TO TRIAL

Officers	15	1	..	2	1	2	..	13	15
Non-commissioned officers	176	3	16	4	6	48	79	..	97
Corporals or brigadiers	216	4	20	10	6	65	111	..	103
Soldiers, rank and file, musicians, drummers, trumpeters, workmen, recruits	6,451	86	274	116	300	1,137	2,442	4,435	14
Total	6,858	93	391	130	308	1,149	2,536	4,627	14
Natives of conquered countries	75	13	4	2	..	3	6	28	..
Grand Total	6,933	106	395	132	308	1,152	2,562	4,655	14

5th TABLE SOLDIERS CLASSÉD ACCORDING TO THEIR LENGTH OF SERVICE UP TO THE DAY ON WHICH THEY WERE BROUGHT TO TRIAL

Having served less than 1 year	807	5	1	..	58	208	243	515	4	374	897
Having served from 1 to 4 years	517	12	56	19	1	115	308	571	5	241	817
Having served from 4 to 6 years	649	20	..	1	151	208	28	408	..	241	649
Having served from 6 to 8 years	2,466	19	195	65	14	310	1,110	1,719	1	716	2,466
Having served above 8 years	169	5	72	..	51	53	7	116	..	53	169
Having served less than 1 year	807	7	72	29	2	124	405	639	3	227	807
Having served from 1 to 4 years	72	5	..	1	18	19	5	48	..	24	72
Having served from 4 to 6 years	481	10	41	10	2	80	222	335	..	146	481
Having served above 6 years	64	4	..	..	10	27	3	42	..	22	64
Having served above 8 years	374	6	20	5	1	35	161	234	1	139	374
Total		6,858	93	391	130	308	1,149	2,536	4,627	14	2,217
Natives of conquered countries		75	13	4	2	..	3	6	28	..	47
Grand Total		6,933	106	395	132	308	1,152	2,562	4,655	14	2,264

6th TABLE PERSONS CHARGED CLASSÉD UNDER "L'INSTRUCTION PRIMAIRE"

Having been able to sign their examination	3,676	39	233	65	152	560	1,342	2,391	6	1,279	3,676
Not having signed their examination	3,257	67	162	67	156	592	1,230	2,264	8	985	3,257
Total		6,933	106	395	132	308	1,152	2,562	4,655	14	2,264

2.						
3.	9	75	92	84	232	1,322 10
4.	9	52	68	46	145	784 70
4.	95	326	472	477	1,312	8,625 "
6.	8	11	20	11	30	240 "
	258	784	1,154	1,155	1,625	17,070 "
7. O	385	1,255	1,839	1,783	3,381	28,762 45
8.	5	12	45	21	99	572 50
9.	344	394	873	753	4,192	24,942 10
10. O	490	460	1,266	1,195	5,299	31,146 30
	726	666	2,033	1,912	6,268	32,914 82
Total	1,950	2,787	6,056	5,664	19,239	118,338 17
Comm						
11. T						
12. A	157	148	401	190	1,892	15,167 8
13. R	87	87	235	153	1,228	15,504 1
14. C	6	8	18	14	159	947 60
al	67	81	223	160	886	6,260 30
	2,267	3,111	6,933	6,181	23,404	156,217 97
annulled.....				126	660	
es heard.				6,307	24,064	

[To face page 217—vol. ii.

SPECIFICATION OF CRIMES.

	Number of soldiers tried	SCHEDULE OF THE SPECIFIED NUMBER OF SOLDIERS CONDEMNED.										SCHEDULE OF THE SAME NUMBER OF SOLDIERS TRIED.										Number of sentences passed.	Number of witnesses heard.	Costs of suit and court.
		CONDEMNED										NUMBER OF SOLDIERS TRIED												
		To death	To forced labour	To solitary confinement	To drag the shot	To the public works	To imprisonment	Total of columns 3 to 8, equalling the number of soldiers condemned.	Sent before the civil tribunals, as being the only competent	Acquitted	Total of columns 9, 10, and 11, equalling the number of soldiers brought to trial.	Within one month from the offence	Subsequently to two months from the offence committed.	Within two months from the offence	Total of columns 13, 14, and 15, equalling the number of soldiers brought to trial.									
Military offences* (provided against by the military code)																								
1 Desertion to the enemy, or in face of the enemy	33	11	"	3	"	4	"	19	"	15	33	20	6	7	33	10	37	120	"					
2 — to foreign countries	92	4	"	"	45	15	3	67	"	25	92	6	9	75	92	83	232	1,922	75					
3 — to the interior by change of resolution	68	16	"	"	21	8	1	46	"	22	68	7	9	52	68	46	145	784	70					
4 — to the interior with arms and uniform	472	3	"	2	56	244	14	339	"	133	472	51	95	326	472	477	1,312	8,625	"					
4 — to the interior, not singly, but with others	20	"	"	"	4	2	"	13	"	7	20	1	8	11	20	11	30	240	"					
6 — to the interior singly	1,154	"	"	"	159	235	252	646	4	504	1,154	112	258	784	1,154	1,155	1,625	17,070	"					
Total of desertion	1,839	34	"	5	285	515	290	1,129	4	706	1,839	169	385	1,255	1,839	1,793	3,381	28,762	45					
7 Offences charged under the heads of treason, spies, and persuading men to desert	45	9	"	"	"	"	1	10	3	32	45	28	5	12	45	21	99	572	50					
8 — under the head of insubordination	873	42	299	3	14	26	117	501	3	369	873	135	344	394	873	753	4,192	24,942	10					
9 — under the head of theft, breach of trust, dishonesty and bribery	1,266	4	36	91	"	138	623	892	"	374	1,266	316	490	460	1,266	1,195	5,299	31,146	30					
10 Offences other than those above specified	2,033	"	15	1	9	462	1,146	1,033	1	399	2,033	641	726	666	2,033	1,912	6,268	32,914	82					
Total of military offences, inclusive of desertion	6,056	89	350	100	308	1,141	2,177	4,165	11	1,880	6,056	1,319	1,950	2,787	6,056	5,664	19,239	118,338	17					
Common offences (provided against by the civil courts)																								
11 Thefts from private citizens	401	"	20	10	"	5	206	241	1	159	401	96	157	148	401	190	1,892	15,167	8					
12 Assassinations and assaults	235	17	16	14	"	3	71	121	1	113	235	61	87	87	235	163	1,228	15,504	1					
13 Rape, and offences against morals	18	"	2	2	"	"	2	6	"	12	18	4	6	8	18	14	159	947	60					
14 Common offences, other than those above specified	223	"	7	6	"	3	105	122	1	100	223	75	67	81	223	160	886	6,260	30					
Grand Total	6,933	106	395	132	308	1,152	2,562	4,655	14	2,264	6,933	1,555	2,267	3,111	6,933	6,181	23,404	156,217	97					
Number of sentences declared, and of witnesses heard in cases annulled																		126	660					
Total of sentences declared, and of witnesses heard																		6,307	24,064					

ERRATA TO VOL. II.

- Page 1, line 1, *for trial read treat.*
 „ 10, „ 13, *for Englishmen read Englishman.*
 „ 19, „ 25, *for suite of rooms you enter are fine read rooms
 you enter fine.*
 „ 32, „ 11, *for lady with (hree daughters read lady with her
 young 1st daughter.*
 „ 70, „ 1, *for prostitution read promiscuous intercourse.*
 „ 74 to 134. There is a mistake in the heading—since the
 title “ Social Condition” ought still to have
 continued on one page, and the subject of the
 different chapters on the other.
 „ 123, „ 22, *for impossible read possible.*
 „ 144, „ 4, *for commercing read commercial.
 government read governmental.*
 „ 150, „ 23, *for central read control.*
 „ 163, „ 8, *for A jury of thirty-six read A jury of thirty.*
 „ 167, „ 12, *for constitution read construction.*
 „ 172, „ 11, *for their condemnation read the confinement
 they were condemned to.*
 „ 180, „ 13, *for there are in France read there are in France
 for secondary instruction.*
 „ 181, „ 18, *for commercial college read communal college.*
 „ 209, „ 25, *for 4½ read 4¼.*
 „ 210, „ 3, *for half-pence read pence.*
 „ 229, „ 11, *for altogether read almost.*
 „ 244, „ 8, *for half-penny read ½d.*
 „ 246, „ 5, *for am painting read have painted.*
 „ 253, „ 19, *for at once as an aid, a check, read at once an
 aid and check.*
 „ 259, „ 22, *for every private establishment read all private
 establishments.*



BOOK V.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

But we'll descant on general nature,
This is a system, not a satire.—*Prior's Poems.*

THE MONARCHY

OF THE

MIDDLE CLASSES.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

CHAPTER I.

The two questions still left to trial—The condition of society and the method of government among the French people.

THE reader who has kindly followed me thus far, will be sensible that I have very imperfectly, but still with some industry, attempted to bring before him a variety of subjects which lead me naturally to those I am now entering upon.

In the first volume, after a description of the gay capital of France, to which a voyager's

attention is first directed, I sought for the peculiar characteristics of the French people. Those characteristics, partly the effect of temperament, but partly likewise the effect of accident and custom, induced me to travel back over such events as it was fair to presume the present generation had been affected by. The state of existing parties, (the postscript to all past history,) furnished me then of necessity with a few pages. But, from the character and history of a people arise certain influences by which present parties, sometimes sensibly, sometimes less visibly, are directed towards the future.

Such influences I ventured to describe. One, however, was omitted; for I felt anxious to trace its power through the organs by which an age expresses itself, before I treated directly of itself. Literature in its various branches, including the press—religion, and those new doctrines which are called philosophies—all furnished me with proofs that the state of property in a country extends over every thing within it. Thus I came to the state of property in France;—and of that I have just been speaking.

Now, it is on the character, on the history, on the state of property in a nation—expressed

in various ways—that the social condition, and the method of government in that nation, depend.

These are the two questions still left to us:

The condition of society—the method of government—in France !

MANNERS.

CHAPTER II.

The sociability of the French—Charm of French society—
Descriptions, traits, sayings—Facts.

The first thing that strikes one in social France, is the characteristic sociability of the French people. A Frenchman cannot be alone; he lives for the movement of a crowd and the clang of conversation. You would hardly find, from Calais to Marseilles, three persons of that large class in England, but more especially in Germany, who pass their lives with their own thoughts. No reputation that Frenchmen possess — no situation in which they are, can reconcile them to the loss—not of friendly intercourse with those whom

they esteem and love—that we all prize :—no : what they pine at losing is—the jargon and chatter of a parcel of persons totally indifferent to them. There was Madame de Staël, who saw only, in the success of her works, the filling of her drawing-room*! and so, even in the woods of America, “ my countryman,” says Lemontey “ will often quit his cabin, and take a walk of five hundred leagues, just to have a chat in New Orleans ! !”

The German dislikes conversation, for it distracts him from his meditations. The Englishman dislikes conversation, for it distracts him from his affairs. The Frenchman both thinks and acts, in order to talk about what he has done and reflected upon.

Thus, society is divided into small cliques and classes, where every one, by tacit arrangement, is allowed to speak of himself, and to collect around him a kind of social republic, each member of which takes a conventional interest in the other’s affairs. Every circle has its great men, its very great men, and its GENIUS,—like the Chinese, considering all

* “ Mon salon redevint peuplée et je retrouverai ce plaisir *de causer à Paris*, qui j’avoue, a toujours été pour moi le plus piquant de tous.”

without it but the corners of the world. This renders France the only country, perhaps, where a foreigner, going from place to place, and from house to house, may form a juster estimate of persons and opinions, than a native can do; for the native is less a citizen of his city than of his clique. He sees things through a glass, which can only carry to a particular distance, and which only represents through the medium of a particular colour. Nothing is so happy for inferiority, or so fatal to superiority. The one is flattered into the belief of talent, the other into the belief of perfection. But if the statesman and the author suffer, it is impossible to say, without experience, how much social intercourse gains. Society becomes, in fact, a family, invested with the charm, and yet relieved from the monotony of relationship. The poet feels a pride in the success of the orator, the orator in that of the poet. The mineralogist is enchanted with the discovery of the chemist; and the chemist rejoices in that which has been made by the mineralogist. The beauty takes an interest in the conquests made by her circle, and the chaperone, in the marriages. The stranger who enters a certain drawing-room, finds himself immediately amongst a number of

friends, and becomes, in an instant, if he pleases, the friend of all.

You, who observe the world, will frequently have seen, that no one admires gaiety so much as a person of a serious turn of mind, and that in two bosom friends you may often find the pattern of joviality and ease, and the model of frigidity and formality. I believe there is much of this in the way in which an Englishman is struck by France, and the attachment which, if he reside there, he will be apt to feel for it.

The easy and uncreaking manner in which the world moves on all its hinges, the facility with which you may see every thing that is to be seen, and go to every place that is to be gone to;—the noiseless step with which you glide into the circle accustomed to receive you, and to which you are ushered by no trumpet-sound of invitation; — the carelessness with which you can slip from society into solitude, and from solitude into society, without any question as to where you have been, or any effort to regain your dropped acquaintance;—the familiarity, and yet the variety, which attends your steps, as you drive from house to house, in search of one that shall occupy you for the evening;—the happy way in which

letters, and science, and even politics and the arts, are mingled together in happy and classical confusion ;—all this — so different from the well-dressed drudgery with which we toil to keep in sight of a monotonous crowd—the perpetual effort and the perpetual failure to be amused—the miserable *Morning Post* notoriety which glimmers upon a miserable race, as the substitute for reputation ; — all this, which, concentrated, forms a kind of sun for society, and breathes upon it the lazzaroni feeling of careless, voluptuous, independent enjoyment—all this—by the worn, and stiff, and jaded Englishmen—accustomed to nothing of pleasure but the wearisomeness of its chace—is welcomed with a grateful sense of delight, such as he never before experienced, and never afterwards forgets.

There is one difficulty, in a chapter of this kind, which a writer necessarily has to encounter. Some people expect him to depicture every drawing-room he has entered, and as a return for the civility he has met with, to set forth with severity the eccentricities of his hosts :—others again accuse him of frivolity, if he descends from dissertation, and deem that the dignity of an author should elevate him above all descriptions. A miserable and frivolous curiosity I

should be loth to indulge; but my object is to interest all classes of good-natured persons; while I do not deem any thing beneath a writer's attention, which amuses a reader without perverting him, and portrays a country without insulting it.

DESCRIPTIONS.

A Public Sitting of the Institute—Eloge funébre.

BEHOLD that old grey-headed academician in spectacles, and that young and smirking coquette in feathers; and that dandy with a gold-headed cane; and that veteran with the grand cross of the legion of honor! But you are not at the Opera—nor at the Théâtre Français—nor at the Variétés. You are at the Institut! At a public sitting of the Institut—and sages and soldiers, and beaux and beauties, are all come to listen to yonder gentleman with a manuscript before him and two glasses of water! Thus it is that science, as smart as fashion, talks to the world with the air of the world, about one of her departed professors. For in France she is not a recluse; the finest gentlemen and ladies are on terms of visiting acquaintance with her.

THE CHAMBER OF PEERS.

This room at one of the extremities of Paris, and in that hotel of the Luxembourg, where the Directory, entering upon their functions with two chairs and a table, maintained the war fearlessly against Europe—is pretty and unimposing, in the form of a semicircle, and surrounded by boxes like a theatre.

Every peer has his chair and his bureau, and from the quiet that reigns on all occasions—state trials excepted—you may guess pretty well that this assembly, though it contains many of the most distinguished men of the day, has no very active share in the government. The most inspiring thing about it, is the Austrian flag, which now once again waves over the president's head, enlivened, to all appearance, by its long sojourn in M. de Semonville's cellar.*

THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

“Monsieur.... *gesticule beaucoup et crie*

* These trophies were supposed to have been taken from Paris at the time of the occupation; but no: they had been carefully and secretly—very carefully and secretly preserved by the Grand Référendaire, who, when his patriotism is doubted, appeals to this glorious exhumation.

vivement de sa place ;” from this very common and descriptive phrase, our idea of a French deputy is taken, and if we drew from our imagination, we should paint, as the Chamber of Deputies, an assemblage of little gentlemen, all gesticulating very much, and shrieking from their places, in accompaniment to one gesticulating still more, and shrieking still louder at the tribune. But this would not be a fair portrait. The newspapers which give these descriptions are far more gesticulatory than the orators they describe. The French chamber notwithstanding the “*ici le President sonne*”—“*ici la chambre est en émeute*,” is upon the whole more orderly than ours. No gentleman ever testifies his natural propensity to bray or to crow, nor are there even such violent coughs caught there, as the air of the House of Commons is frequently—and as it seems to me, I confess, sometimes very naturally—impregnated with. The interruptions too, that “the orator” (to use the magnificent expression given the gentleman speaking in France,) meets with—are rather of a nature to animate and draw him on, than to put him out. It is not inattention, but attention which is apt to be noisy. It is only the person accustomed to the agitations of popular assem-

blies who experiences interruption, and he, who if a skilful master of his art, has frequently studied how to procure a remark, a contradiction, or a smile, gladly seizes the occasion to bring forth as an impromptu retort, the more elaborate part of his discourse.

What would our discussions appear, if the countenances of the audience were watched, and its whispers noted?—"Here Mr. O'Connell frowned,"—"Here Lord Stanley started,"—"Here Sir Robert Peel looked attentive,"—"Here Lord John Russell smiled,"—"movement of impatience to the left"—"movement of anger to the right," "the House much agitated,"—the speaker evidently affected, cried "*order* three times in a sonorous voice." The difference is more in the reporting than the proceedings. The ringing of the bell to be sure is indecorous, and the president's manner too much that of a schoolmaster, who says, "hold your tongue! be quiet sir! don't talk! mind your lesson!" etc. The tribune, also, though less formal than one imagines it, still gives a theatrical and rhetorical tone to the discussion, which is admirably avoided in the simplicity of our own debates.

FRENCH ELOQUENCE.

The style of French eloquence, indeed, in this popular assembly, is that which strikes an English listener the most, because it is what he least expects, or is least accustomed to. With the exception of Monsieur Dupin, who, with a good deal of pedantry, mixes up the ease and abruptness of our own way of speaking, reminding you, now of Lord Brougham, and now of Mr. O'Connell,—with the exception of M. Dupin, and I must add M. Thiers, who carries into discussion all that is witty, brilliant, and striking in conversation—with these two exceptions, the parliamentary men of France proceed with a stately and solemn march, totally inconsistent with our ideas of the most frivolous, and lively, and volatile people upon earth.

Certainly it would be very difficult for any one who read the two discourses translated into German, and who was acquainted solely with the characters of the two countries, to believe that Lord Brougham's light-hearted and passionate effusion on Reform was delivered by the Lord Chancellor of England, or that Monsieur Royer Collard's profound metaphysical disquisition on the peerage was the popular speech of the Chamber of Deputies. The two

nations, on crossing the threshold of their representative assemblies, seem to exchange characters. The life, the animation, the action of the French citizen passes into the English orator. The cold, abstruse, and deeply reflective spirit of the English philosopher transmigrates into the volatile person of the French statesman. And this is to be remarked—even in the first French Revolution, (except in moments of peculiar excitement, when men were striving for their lives, rather than contending for any legislative theory,) the same cold and philosophic tone was perceptible. The usual style of the passionate and impetuous Mirabeau himself, whose character and energy were rather displayed in short, abrupt, and timely exclamations, such as the reply to M. de Brezé, than in lengthened discourses, wore so much the appearance of the calm meditation of the closet, that he was commonly accused of repeating the lectures of Monsieur Dumont.

How is it that the character and the eloquence of a people are in such direct opposition? To say that the orator reads in the French chamber and extemporizes in ours, is not sufficient, since most of the French speak extempore, without any *very apparent* preme-

dition. Besides if the Ex-cathedrâ species of oratory were not in some degree conformable with the genius of the place, it would not occasionally be received and admired there. To account for this, we must remember, that—that love for detail, and that passion for generalities by which the two countries are respectively characterized, are singularly remarkable in their respective constitutions. In England, the progress of improvement has been slow and piecemeal; we have added on a little here, we have cut off a little there, and we have continued mending, and sometimes though not frequently, adding, from casual motives of expediency. We have argued upon legislative questions as upon turnpike acts, but with one exception only, we have never solved the elements of society in order to recompose it. We have never taken abstract views of our form of Government, and attempted to base it on general principles. Even in moments of change, we have adopted the language of Burke, and considering our constitution “a sacred legacy,” rather asserted the justice of restoration than the necessity of improvement.

It rarely happened, therefore, previous to the few last years, that in the questions

agitated, there was wherewithal to engross the whole mind and faculties of the statesman, or deeply to excite the attention of the assembly or the public. Doddington's Diary furnishes us with amusing instances of the manner in which an opposition went about looking for a grievance. The subjects ordinarily brought forward derived their importance less from themselves than from the opportunity they afforded to two parties of delivering battle. The excitement was in the strife, and not in its cause. A personal, passionate, amusing way of speaking, therefore, naturally introduced itself, without the charm and colour of which a debate would frequently have resembled Uncle Tom's dispute with nephew John on the difference between a chesnut horse and a horse chesnut.

In France, on the contrary, when the builder in 1789 took the trowel into his hands, the first stone of the building was not laid. The principle on which it was to be deposited and consecrated was the subject of long deliberation. The rights of man were declared, before any attempt to deduce social happiness and political power from them was made. There was enough in the gigantic questions

which started every instant into discussion, to fill the mind of the politician, and to arrest the attention of those to whom he was communicating new and important truths. A philosophical treatise was wanted, rather than a spirited harangue; and it was only at the fall of the Girondists, when principles were forgotten and persons were contending—less indeed to obtain the honors of the state than to escape the revolutionary scaffold—that we find frequent specimens of another eloquence in those beautiful and impassioned bursts—one of which escaped from Madame Roland's unfortunate admirer, who vainly hoped and declared that his voice—"qui plus d'une fois avait porté la terreur dans ce palais d'où elle avait précipité la tyrannie, la porterait aussi dans l'âme des scélérats qui voulaient substituer leur tyrannie à celle de la royauté."

A BALL AT THE TUILERIES.

You drive into the court-yard, get out at one of the great doors. The staircase to the right is broad and straight, with two columns at the top. The suite of rooms you enter are fine. The first, white and plain; the second, sur-

rounded by a kind of balcony and pannelled with the pictures of different *maréchals*. The third, very large and handsome and leading to another that contains a velvet canopy and throne; the fifth is the last.

Before you is company—such as it is described—of a mixed kind; “one might fancy oneself in Heaven,” said a lady near me—“for there also, there is no distinction of persons.”

This is abused and sneered at; very ignorantly and ridiculously as it seems to me. A gentleman or nobleman has *his* society; but a king is of all societies. He is the head of the nation and not the head of a clique.

At all events these balls represent France* and the epoch, and are interesting on that account.

A MINISTER'S RECEPTION.

Here you are struck, in most cases, by the splendid hotel of the minister, and the manner, simple and plain of the man. In fact you see two parts of society, the manners of old times and the ideas of new, but ill-joined together.

There is not a courtier but speaks the lan-

* The most magnificent balls were those of Charles the Tenth—the best regulated and acted, Bonaparte's.

guage of a republican, nor a republican who does not sit on a chair rich with the luxury of Louis XV.

The ministers of one end of the town receive one night, those of the other end another. The same troop rushes from salon to salon—diplomats and deputies, generals and procureurs généraux.

But the person for whom these soirées are really wanted is—the provincial gentleman, who would honestly imagine that no government existed, if he could not see it, and talk to it, and court it.

The bow and the smile he receives is hailed as ‘la loi vivante,’ and he enters the court yard of the president of the council with the same sacred feeling of security, with which he lays his hand upon the code of the constitution.

A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITION.

Monsieur —— lives *au troisième* in a small apartment, the salon of which opens, as is frequent in France, to the *chambre à coucher*. Every thing is as decent and simple as possible in the furniture and arrangement of the apart-

ment, and there is an air of respectability about it and the owner, completely English.*

“ Did you read my article in the National ? ”
“ I ought to know, for I was in the last campaign in Spain, and I say that the army is in a state of the most deplorable insubordination.”
“ We have nothing to do with her, (the Duchess de Berri) she ought to be taken before the proper tribunals.” “ *Oui, la dissection était très-belle* ” — “ of course you have a box for Victor Hugo’s new drama ” — were the mingled sounds that I once heard, and which proceeding from no common assemblage of journalists, generals, deputies, doctors, lawyers, and men of letters, gave an idea of the manner in which professions in France are intermingled, as well as of the ranks of which the opposition is composed.

BEAUTY OF THE EMPIRE.

The apartment of Madame —— filled with large fauteuils, beautiful porcelaine, book-cases, statues, bronzes, etc. is a model of

♦ Monsieur —— is altogether worthy of his reputation ; moderate, sagacious, active, eloquent, and liked by all parties, though known to be devoted to his own. On Madame, at once remarkable for her virtue, her wit, and her charms, even a still longer eulogium might be written.

luxury and good taste. The lady herself equally celebrated for her manners and her wit, and exercising at one time no inconsiderable influence, retains many of the charms and all the originality for which she was once distinguished. Never was person more quick, more vivacious, more powerful, or more extraordinary in conversation.

She jumps upon a subject, kicks it here, and kicks it there; thumps it about, without respect and in all directions; then she stops breathless, and before you can collect yourself for reply, seizes another subject and treats it in the same manner. Nothing can be compared to her eloquence, her fire, her manner of deciding a question in a phrase, or painting a person by a word. A stranger, however, might be startled to hear her speak of *Bonaparte*.

Oh ! le petit homme il était charmant ! dents comme des perles, toutes petites, toutes petites—des mains mignonnes—il se parfumaît—oh ! il était gentil, il était gourmand—le petit homme !

THE SUCCESSFUL JOURNALIST.

Monsieur de —— first hit upon a method, since become common, of making his fortune

by a paper. He announced formally, that a society of good royalists was formed, with a journal—his own journal of course, for their organ. The society was generous, prizes were to be given for the best essays, the literary youth of France were invited to enter a noble field of competition, and the less lettered gentlemen of wealth were also invited to subscribe funds for this very laudable undertaking.

Such was the project announced during the restoration, and when loyalty was at its height. The prospectus took, contributions flowed in, the society received and answered a very flowery and golden correspondence—and who formed the society? and who wrote the journal? and who received the subscriptions? and who gained the prizes?

Monsieur de —— alone formed the society; Monsieur de —— alone wrote the journal; Monsieur de —— alone touched the subscriptions; Monsieur de —— alone gained the prizes.

A GENTLEMAN OF THE OLD REGIME.

The Marquis de ——, with powdered hair and a great deal of very fine linen, was all the fashion in the time of Louis XVI, and saw Mme. Dubarri dine with Louis XV.

“What do you think of society now and society then, Marquis?”

“For society—to those who lived when I did, there is no society now. How can there be, when here was my young friend, (bowing to a young gentleman opposite) who was near cutting my throat just now, because we do not quite agree in political opinions? When I was a young man, Sir, the only thought and occupation was—how shall we most amuse ourselves? All the wit, all the talent, all the energy, which is now working itself out in such a variety of ways, was then concentrated in creating pleasure.” “And luxury, Marquis?” “How can you talk of luxury?—the only luxurious creature of modern society that I remember, is gone, disappeared altogether. The courtesan is as antideluvian as the mammoth. In my time she kept her carriages, had her most beautiful and classically epicurean apartment, or her delightful *petite maison*; where she gave *soirées* far more difficult to get to, than those of the queen. She studied the art of giving pleasure as a science; every thing about her breathed that *volupté* and that desire to which she devoted herself—and then her conversation was as piquant as her person!”

“But how did she support all this extravagance?” “Oh! she lived either with a gambler or a grand seigneur.” “I remember your father, Monsieur de—— saying, when he had lost everything—*au moins puis-je garder Julie et un cabriolet!*” “The Prince de Soubise, in my time, kept seven figurantes who had each their allotted night. He allowed them lovers in the meantime, but they were peremptorily to be of the noblesse. Poor Ségur, I remember, was very much in love with one of them, Mlle. Adèle. “Oh! Prince,” said some one to him, “if you knew the pain you give poor Ségur every Tuesday!” “*Mais qu’a-t-il donc?*” “*Il aime Adèle.*” “*Quels enfans! et pourquoi ne me l’ont ils pas dit? Elle ne viendra plus jusqu’à ce que cela soit passé—cela passera.*”

A NOTARY.

Is my English reader a ward in chancery? if so, he has been more than once in Lincoln’s-Inn. What comfortless chambers are those of his most respectable solicitor!

Well, he goes to Paris to a small entresol in a large hotel! He is shewn into a little boudoir;—the table is covered with splendid pieces of

Sèvres, and the chimney-piece loaded with ormolu. A book-case surmounted by every variety of Venus, fronts the chimney, and contains the most richly bound, and the most splendid gilt books in the world.

Is he at his lady's?—no ; he is at his lawyers—who will be with him in five minutes in the splendidly brocaded dressing-gown of the courier of Louis XV.

A LITERARY LADY.

Climb up two or three pair of stairs—pull the bell at a small door—and enter a little room, simple and in good taste. There is a doctor, a couple of journalists, a poet, a bookseller, and a mathematician ! The doctor cures his patients by magnetism ; the journalist intends saving his country by a war, a bankruptcy, and the guillotine ; the poet writes long romances, which he calls lyrics ; the bookseller despises Walter Scott and Lord Byron, but respects the manner in which they are printed. The mathematician is a clever man and makes love to the lady ; and the lady, half poet, half journalist, half physiologist, half author, and half coquette, talks to the doctor about magnetism, to the journalist about guillotining, to the poet about romances, to the bookseller

about printing, to the mathematician about love, and to the last visitor about all these.

A PHILOSOPHIC MODIST.

The Demoiselle F..... modist, aged twenty years, living Rue du Faubourg St. Martin, had contracted the bad habit of play. Gay and pretty, she had many adorers, and some had presented money with their heart; but her passion for play was such, that in less than three years she lost 60,000 francs. She then began to sell her furniture; and alas! the more her distress was known, the less pressing her lovers became. At last, too idle to work, and too distressed to live without it, she determined to put an end to her existence, and chose the first day of the year for her project.

But before lighting the charcoal, she wrote the following letter to her mother:—

“ My dear Mamma,

“ The year just passed has been to me a very
“ unhappy one—I hope that the one now com-
“ mencing will bring you those consolations
“ you stand in need of. You know, my dear
“ mamma, that for some time past my re-
“ sources have been daily diminishing. It is

“ painful to live in privation after one has been
“ accustomed to luxury. It is disagreeable to
“ work after one has been free, and accustomed
“ from early youth, to follow one’s pursuits, and
“ one’s pleasures. Then forgive me, my dear
“ mamma, if having lost all those advantages
“ I ought to have been careful of—I do not
“ now want to sigh over my misfortunes.

“ Alas ! my pen refuses to obey my will,
“ or I would paint to you all my past tribu-
“ lations. But death is waiting for me, and
“ I shall be gone before midday. So I kiss
“ you, my dear mamma, as I love you, that is
“ to say, with all my soul.

“ Your respectful daughter,

“ JOSEPHINE ——— .

“ *Paris, Jan. 1, 1835.*”

— *Gazette des Tribunaux.*

A WISE COCHER DE CABRIOLET.

“ They want to make me join them, Sir,
in their émeutes and nonsense.

“ Ma foi,” I said to myself, “ Et qu’est-

ce que tu as été, toi, sous l'empire ?” “cocher de cabriolet.” — “And under Charles X ?” “cocher de cabriolet.” — “And under Louis-Philippe ?” “cocher de cabriolet ;”—“And if there were a republic, what would you be ?” “cocher de cabriolet. Alors que la dynastie aille comme elle pourra. Je ne m'en mêlerai point, moi qui ne serai jamais que cocher de cabriolet.”*

A MILITARY PORTER.

“I met my porter, yesterday,” said a gay officer to me, “my porter, who is an old soldier of the ‘*vieille garde*’ with my sword in his hand.” “It is as bright now as ever it was,” said he. “I did not know it had ever been soiled,” said I. “Alas ! yes, Sir, I had some words yesterday with a carabineer ; we met in

* “Faith,” I said to myself, “and what have you been—you—under the empire ?” “cocher de cabriolet.” — “And under Charles X ?” “cocher de cabriolet.” — “And under Louis-Philippe ?” “cocher de cabriolet ;”—“and if there was a republic, what would you be ?” “cocher de cabriolet. Then let the dynasty go on as it will. I’ll not meddle with it, who will always be—cocher de cabriolet.”

the morning, and this weapon that you see passed through his body.

“ Pauvre garçon ! il est tombé là raide mort.”

TRAITS.

IMPORTANT NEWS.

“ My dear Cecile,

“ THE FATHER left yesterday the port of
“ Marseilles, in the ship called ‘ Le Prince
“ Héréditaire.’ The captain’s name is Vianello.
“ You first announced to me his DEPARTURE
“ from *prison*. I announce to you his DEPAR-
“ TURE from *the west*.

“ THE FATHER has quitted *the west* ! . . .
“ let this great fact resound in the ears of all
“ men and of all women !!!—

“ &c. &c. &c. &c.

“ RODREGUER BARRAULT.

“ *24th September, year of the mother.**”

A READING.

This kind of demi-publicity still continues, and keeps the vanity of the author in breath until he has finished his work. If he is writing a tragedy, he will read it scene by scene ; if a novel, chapter by chapter.

* Copied verbatim.

Nobody is invited who is not a good admirer, except on very rare occasions. I remember one of these—a gentleman had written a comedy which he thought too indecent for the stage—and in order to make up his mind, invited the most modest of his female acquaintance to hear it.

A PENSION.

The persons one meets at these places are on an average—a French colonel on half-pay—an English shopkeeper—a couple of journalists—and a respectable old English lady with three daughters.

The English mother does not know French, and has gone to a '*pension*' in order that her daughter may learn it. The French colonel sits at dinner between the two—and seduces the simpering girl under the mother's unsuspecting apron.

THE ENGLISH AT THE CAFÉ DE PARIS.

I remember being seated at the window of this café near a very decent English family. "Very good chicken! capital wine! it's Volney," says the gentleman, "Volney, you know

my dear, (very loud !) called after the famous traveller.”*

* I would not pass by this subject without one or two words of regret given to my unfortunate countrymen. Go to Calais, Boulogne ; any of the British-visiting provincial towns, or even to Paris itself, and see the queer figures who are passing themselves off as models of English elegance. Just look at their pinched up, or broadened out brim'd hats, their indescribably cut coats, their whiskers, their mustachoes, their swagger, their ignorance, their insolence, and recollect to your horror that the costume, and the ton that would hardly be tolerated in Burlington Arcade or Covent Garden saloon, are very soberly considered by the French people who have never passed the channel as a fair specimen of the tip-top taste and breeding of their outlandish neighbours. Again, pass where you will on the continent, and be sure, if anything very extraordinary, very ridiculous, very impertinent be done, be sure it is one of your countrymen who has the honor of doing it ! If any man live in more scandalous indecency than the habits even of Italy will allow, be sure it is a native of that country which prides itself on its especial prudcry and morality. If any body be noted for a greater freedom of language, and a more unconscionable incontinency than another, ten to one but it is a lady of that land which is so proud of the modest purity of its women.

England abroad and England at home, thank heaven ! are in this respect two countries as different as Kamchatka and Otaheiti. People of all sexes and all classes seem to take a pride in convincing the world, that they change their skins with their climate, and that if they conduct

DUELS OF THE CHAMBER.

You can buy what are called “les balles de député.” These balls evaporating in the air, are sure to do no mischief to the senatorial combatants. Was there ever such a criticism on the age? *Men fight for honor and cheat it.*

SAYINGS.

CARLISM.

Cette pauvre princesse (the Duchess of Berri) elle donnait de si jolis bals ! such is the attachment of one half the Faubourg to the heroine of la Vendée.

LOVE OF NATURE.

A young Frenchman was abusing Italy as nothing extraordinary.—“Ah !” said Madame —“you were not there when M. de Laval was minister.”

CONJUGAL VIRTUE.

“La vertu d’une femme mariée, c’est de garder son amant même quand il lui déplaît.”

themselves with decency and propriety in May Fair and Fleet Street, they can be guilty of every species of indecorum when in sight of the Champs Elysées and the Coliseum.

OBEDIENCE.

“Certainly,” said a young lady, very seriously, to one then about to be married — “*Les femmes doivent obéir dans les petites choses, mais les hommes assurément dans les grandes.*”

ABSENCE.

“I do not love my husband enough to leave him.”

ANCESTRY.

“*Je me moque de mes ancêtres ; jugez donc, mon cher, ce que je dois faire des vôtres.*”*

TYRANNY.

“What a tyranny we live under!” says a gay carlist. “And where have you just come from, Sir?” “Oh! from Prague; two hundred of us went to offer our homage to Henry V.” “And is this generally known?” “Certainly, every body knows it.”

“To be sure it is a terrible tyranny you live under.”

TIES OF RELATIONSHIP.

An enraged husband was about to slay the lover of his wife—“*Arrête, malheureux!*” cried the lady, “*Tu vas tuer le père de tes enfans.*”†

* I laugh at my own ancestors, judge then, my dear fellow, what I might do with yours.

† Stop, unhappy man! you are about to kill the father of your children.

PARAGRAPHS THAT SUCCEEDED EACH OTHER IN A NEWSPAPER.

STATISTIQUE —LEGION OF HONOUR.

Difference between 1831 & 1833

Great crosses . 7

Grand officers . 12

Commanders . 99

Officers . . . 419

Chevaliers . . 5,831

INSTRUCTION PRIMAIRE.

There are in France 1,935,000 children, who receive primary instruction, There are 41,000 schools; and upwards of 11, private.

LES ENFANS DE MARSEILLES.

*A report of
M. le Maire de
Marseilles, re-
lates to us the
grave inconveni-
ences and acci-
dents that result
from the pitch-
ed battles fought
daily between the
two parties among
THE CHILDREN in
different quarters
of the town.*

MODES

We omitted,
by mistake, in
our last number
to speak of the
dress which the
Queen wore at
the court ball.
WE HASTEN to
repair this error.
Not only was
Her Majesty's
toilette magnifi-
cent but elegant.
The gown was—
WHITE SATIN EM-
BROIDERED WITH
ROSES, &c. &c.

Then follows a list of the Jury for the department of the Seine.

Surely these paragraphs thus running and blended together, give no bad picture of France as it is.—Her impetuous youth, her military honours, her primary instruction, her jury list, and then—*the gown embroidered with roses ! ! !*

Thus have I sketched, as illustrations to my subject, two or three scenes and portraits, and even noted a few traits and observations. I will now throw together a few facts.

Of books published in 1833, I find

Poetry of different kinds . . .	275
Modern law, the sciences, natural history, and administrations . . .	532
Romances, Novels, and translations of the same	355
Histories, narratives and the like	213
Philosophy, metaphysics . . .	102
Travels and fine arts	170
Devotion, Theology, etc. . . .	235
Theatrical pieces in verse and prose	179
Foreign books of different languages	604
Pamphlets, libels, prospectus' and speeches	4,346

Total 7,011

What do we see here?—in the first place, an enormous appetite for momentary and frivolous discussion; that one expected;—but by the side of it behold a love for the sciences, for natural history, and the theories of government, which we might have supposed less general amongst so volatile and excitable a people!

Then again, novels, poetry, and the drama, those branches of literature that, judging from the surface of things, we should have deemed most in abundance, furnish less than metaphysics, devotion, history, and the arts.

Novels, etc. including translations	355
Poetry	275
Drama	179
	<hr/>
	709
Metaphysics	109
Devotion	235
History	213
The arts	170
	<hr/>
	720

And now if we take the theatres! there we find the returns of:

The Opera, (dancing and French music.)

The Porte St. Martin, (Mélodrame.)

Vaudeville.

Variétés.

Gymnase.

} little farces.

to be as much as the twelve other theatres of Paris, including the Théâtre Français, the Opéra Comique, and the Italian Opera put together.

Turn we to the Institut! who are the candidates?

M. Châteauneuff,* an historian.

M. de Salvandy, a very remarkable periodical writer.†

And M. Scribe, the well known and happy farce writer—on this occasion as on others successful.

In the exposition at the same time, I remark—nor is this unuseful in tracing the habits of a population—

15,000 clocks, average price 250 francs

40,000 pairs of flambeaux . 20 „

3,000 do candalabres . . 200 „

* Author of “the History of the great Captains.”

† The author of “Alonzo,” which also had four editions, and of “the History of Poland.”

60,000 glass cylinders . . .	10 frs.
Lustres and lamps to the value of	1,000,000
Small articles of bronze . . .	1,800,000
More costly do	2,000,000

In all this, there is a strange mixture of different and opposing qualities, such as are to be found in a nation not moulded in a day, but which on the contrary, has passed through a variety of changes, and presents in its molten mass, a variegated and heterogenous composition. We see old tastes by the side of new, and new tastes, which almost seem incompatible with the old !

The everlasting appetite for scandal and science !

The love for the melodrame and the joke !

The struggle between history, metaphysics, and farce !

The luxury of tastes, and the mediocrity of fortunes.

YOUNG FRANCE.

CHAPTER III.

Modern Cataline—Journalist—Dramatist—Suicide—Son of a tallow-chandler—Monsieur Marmote Fathay—Baronde———Royalist—Doctrinaire—Artist—Young Doctors, and Philosophers of the hour.

Let us see! There has been a conspiracy. Who are at the bar? a cabinet maker, a certain number of shoemakers, a locksmith, a painter, a button-maker, an engraver, a shopkeeper, a doctor, and a lady, whose more peaceful occupation is to sit at the counter of a café. All eyes are of course turned upon the lady and the chief of this terrible band, whose plots have disquieted the dreams of the good citizen King, and exercised the arms of his valorous national guard.

Come forth most renowned Cataline! “Who

are you?" "I am the son of a prolétaire, (peasant). I belong to that class which the rich repudiate and misunderstand. My temper is irritable and nervous;—chafing at little obstacles—calm before a battalion with fixed bayonets. I do not know so much as I should wish to know, for education is not gratuitous in France.

"You ask me my life.—A boy, enlisting as volunteer, I fought under Napoleon's eagles. The restoration came, I returned to my father's cottage, and shared the rude labours of the old man. From that cottage, the Revolution of July called me. The charter was violated. I wished for a republic. Wounded on the 28th, I leaped into the Louvre on the 29th. — In the Tuileries, a sabre-cut maimed this hand. In the rue de Rohan, a ball entered this shoulder. As I behaved in July, so I behaved in June."

President. "You are accused at that time of homicide with premeditation."

Republican. "I know it."

President. "You ran about the streets, shouting 'To arms!' "

Republican. "Yes."

President. "Did you distribute cartridges?"

Republican. "When they were wanted."

President. "Did you not fire upon a battalion of the line?"

Republican. "I traversed with ten comrades the whole of the first line. Eight fell, and I retired by the street."

Such are the answers of a slight young man, with hollow cheeks, penetrating eyes, and black moustaches.

He had fought for a republic. What did he want? A government without appointments, without taxes. Things, he thought, would go well, if left to themselves.*

Here is one of your "Young France," a type of that reckless and imaginative youth, ever ready to rush on the cannon.

Born of poor parents, with but little education, of daring character, impracticable ideas and good intentions;—consumed by unemployed energies and dissatisfied ambition.

Requiring action from his temperament;—the very soul of a state at war;—a canker into its repose in peace.

Let us turn to another class and another type!

"It happened to me," says M. Janin, "as it has happened to all men of letters, present

* See National, 30th October, 1832.

and past—I entered a literary career without knowing it, and without wishing it. I was a writer in ignorance that I did write;—by necessity, as every body is.”

“ Oh! I remember my mother, her cottage by the Rhône side, and the diligence which carried me to Paris, on a speculation; for my father, and my uncles, and all my family thought me a real prodigy, and so did the ladies of my village, to whom I wrote verses, and who said that all I wanted was,—a little education.

“ Thus was I sent to the “*famous*” college—(for my friends were determined that every chance should be in my favour)—to the “*famous*” college—which had gained the prize that year, and which I and my friends considered it a matter of course that I should gain the year following.

“ I passed three years at that college, did not gain the prize, and learned little for my pains;—that is to say, I learned neither mathematics, nor languages, nor history, nor indeed any kind of literary lore; but I learned something, I confess, of the world’s lore;—for I learned how one makes friends, and how one keeps them, and also with how little science, and how little merit, and how little industry one may get on in life.

“ This, after all, was no despicable kind of knowledge. My comrades had friends, and prospects dependant on friends. What alas! has become of most of them?*

“ I had no expectations, no friends, beyond the walls of that memory-haunted place—no friends, save an old grand-aunt, eighty years old, who, hobbling along, the dear old creature! by the aid of her hooked stick, came, at last, to take me to her garret, *au quatrième*, to which she had brought all our old country furniture,—the chairs, the table, and the little sofa and bed, the very same I knew so well;—and there we lived four happy years of my life:—Oh! what four happy years those were! How many passions given to the wind! how much useless poesy! what sighs wafted to the clouds!

* “ Some bandied on thesea, slain in battle; some fell in Greecc, taken by surprise; many have fallen in the Bois de Boulogne, by a sword’s stab in a corner behind a tree; others again have lost their memory;—and then, what a host have perished by different modes of suicide—the vaudeville, the song, the epic, the hazard table, and love.

“ I saw them on the threshold of our college, I saw them quit it so beautiful! so laughing! so gay! so full of youthful folly.

“ Let us pray for them!”

what labour too, to gain my little livelihood as I could!*

“ Those years passed by me like a day. I desired nothing, I feared nothing, I envied nothing. Living with my friends, having now and then with them a joyous and savoury repast, happy in the happiness of my old aunt, and sticking up against the wall, when I could buy them, great red and blue daubs, which I thought very beautiful, and which were called Greeks then, as they would be called Poles now.

“ That was life!! and what heroines! with what names! Alexandrina, Rose, Lili,—German, Spanish, French,—great lady, or little grisette—all suited us.

“ Thus I and those like me lived from day to day, trusting to chance; with little effort, no variety, and but slight privations.

* “ In the first place, I gave lessons, at so much a lesson; I taught a thousand things I knew little about; for instance, Latin, Greek, History, Geography, and heaven knows what besides; I’d have taught Hebrew or Syriac, if I had been asked; any thing but mathematics. Mathematics one cannot teach without knowing them, and this is why I have ever had a great respect for mathematics.

I made my scholars understand little from my lessons; but they taught somebody—they taught myself.”

“But I meant to speak of my entry into literature, how was it? Many volumes could be written on a literary life in France! I mean merely to write of my own. It is short, *but it will give a pretty good idea of the literary life of my epoch.*

“One evening, I remember it well, I was walking backwards and forwards before that theatre, which I then thought the perfection of the dramatic art, “l’Opéra Comique,” revolving in my mind, with no small degree of agitation, whether I would or would not give the 44 sous, that the Opéra Comique at that time exacted at its portal.

“At this critical moment, whom should I see but a young man, whose acquaintance I had made in the Luxembourg, by my dog making the acquaintance of his dog, and who had then under his arm, the arm of an elegant and beautiful lady. What were my feelings when he proposed to me a place in his box, a place by the side of that elegant and beautiful lady, who was no less,—my heart thrilled, than a singer at the opera!

“My friend was a journalist—his happiness decided my profession: I became a journalist too; and a journalist I shall die, because I

was walking one beautiful summer's evening before the door of the Opéra Comique*.

“It is but the first step that makes us fear—in a balloon, on a railroad, as the editor of a paper;—there you are seated comfortably and calm; and there is the crowd below you, trembling and affrighted—*voilà tout !*”

“Our age is the age of free thought, of independence—our age is the age of the press—the golden age for the periodical writer. Happy then, and proud am I to belong to that press, to be a periodical writer.

* Not that I complain, in saying this, of a literary life. I am far from being so ungrateful towards the noblest career in this age of liberty. A literary life in France has, at all times, been a life apart and amidst the grandeurs of the world; it is better than that now; it is a life apart amidst the powers of the world.

The man of letters is what the Grand Seigneur was. They have both taken their place in our institutions—they are both citizens, but citizens out of the crowd, in spite of the crowd—citizens apart—citizen aristocrats, to say the truth, by passion, by sentiment, by thought, and by reputation.

The man of letters of to-day, has, with his pen, an existence assured and gained quite as much as has the advocate, or the notary.

The constitution could not exist without debates and discussions of all kinds, for and against!

“When I commenced, what existed in France had an immense appearance. It appeared a universe to a gay journalist of twenty. Well, it is all gone—all—vanished—gone, heaven knows where—gone, and devoured by the journal, that power so frail and dwarfish when I commenced my career, exposed as it was to the arbitrary will of a censor, who would cut you off a thought as an executioner does a head.

“By what ruins am I surrounded ! What a gulph between the time when I first mended my pen to write, and now when I take it up to trace the recollection of things gone by !

The journal to-day is more than a want, it is a duty. It is a necessity of every morning, of every evening, of every hour. The journal is the reproduction of a whole life, public, literary, philosophic, taking all the shades of society, from the first to the last. This power guides at will, and violently, every one and every thing : power inexorable, devouring itself when it has nought else to feed upon ! Do you know how many writers, active, passionate, and devoted, it requires to suffice for all its exigencies, and all its wants, and all its life ?

Do you know into what a gulph without bottom, are thrown at every instant such a multitude of passions, of ideas, of paradoxes, of follies, of every thing which is engendered by the heart, soul, passion, vices, and virtues of mankind ?”

“At first, I was a writer unknown, a writer of the opposition by epigram—harrassing and attacking the ministers, of whom I knew little, and who knew less of me. Later, I rose from the little newspaper to the great newspaper—from the popular journal to the aristocratic journal, always the same man, in spite of what people have thought proper to say, always of the opposition, now here and now there.

“They who reproach me with having passed from one paper to another, cannot reproach me with having changed from one opinion to another; always attacking whatever I thought strong; the enemy of the powerful; never guided in my hostilities by my interest, and ever quitting that side which became the victorious one. This is why I left my little liberal journal of the opposition when it triumphed under M. Martignac; this is why I left my great royalist journal of opposition the day that M. Polignac came into power.

“Opposition has been my life as to others is the support of power.”*

Such is the most popular journalist's description of his life and opinions.

* This writer seems to consider that to be always in the opposition is always to be consistent, and that it matters not what you oppose.

And now we will pass from the journalist to the dramatist—to the criticised from the critic;—and here again we find a gentleman his own biographer.

“ I was not twenty years old when my mother one morning entered my room, came to my bedside, kissed me weeping and said—

“ ‘ Mon ami, je viens de vendre tout ce que nous avons pour payer nos dettes*.’

“ ‘ Eh bien ! ma mère ?’†

“ ‘ Eh bien ! my poor child, our debts paid, there remains to us 253 francs—’

“ ‘ A year ?’

My mother smiled bitterly—

“ ‘ In all ?’ said I.

“ ‘ In all.’

“ ‘ Well, my mother, I will take the fifty-three francs and start this evening for Paris.’

“ ‘ And what will you do there, mon pauvre ami ?’

“ ‘ I’ll see the friends of my father, the Duc de Bellune, Sébastiani, Jourdan.’

“ ‘ Do as you will,’ said my mother, kissing me once more—‘ perhaps it’s the inspiration of God’—and she went out.

* “ My child, I have just sold everything we had to pay our debts.”

† “ Well, my mother.”

“ My first visit was to Marshal Jourdan ; he had some vague recollection of my father, it is true ; but had never heard that he had a son. I left him in ten minutes, very imperfectly convinced of my existence.

“ I next went to General Sébastiani.

“ The General was in his ‘ cabinet de travail ;’ four or five secretaries were writing under his dictation, each of whom had upon his bureau, besides his pen, his paper, and his pen-knife, a gold snuff-box, which he presented to the general whenever he stopped before him in those perambulations which, like the *malade imaginaire*, he conducted across his chamber now in one direction, now in the other.

“ My visit was short, whatever might be my consideration for the general, I had no wish to become his snuff-box bearer.

“ The day after, I presented myself at General Foy’s—

“ I was introduced into his library ; he was then occupied with his History of the Peninsular War. At the moment I entered, he was writing on one of those tables which lift up and down at pleasure ; scattered around him were speeches, maps, and half open volumes.

“ Turning round with his accustomed vivacity, on hearing the door of his sanctuary open,

he fixed his penetrating eyes on me—I trembled.

“ ‘Monsieur * * * * *?’ said he, ‘are you son of the General who commanded the army of the Alps?’

“ ‘Yes, general.’

“ ‘*C’était un brave.*’ What can we make of you?’

“ ‘Any thing you like, General.’

The next day I returned to the hotel of the General, he was my sole hope.

“ ‘Eh bien,’ said he, your business is settled. You are supernumerary clerk with an appointment of 1,200 francs per annum*, in the office of the Duke of Orleans!’

This is the opening scene in the theatrical life of one of the first writers of the French stage.† But there are other pretenders less fortunate.

“A few days ago,” says a late journal, “a body was dragged from the Seine, near Pont St. Nicholas, the dead body of a young man aged twenty years. It was the body of a young poet, by name—Jules Mercier. In his pocket was found an elegy entitled, ‘*A Emma,*’ and bearing the date of April last.

* About £50. † M. Alexandre Dumas.

“At the bottom of the elegy was the following note—‘ This piece ought to have been part of a collection that my editor should publish immediately.’

“ It is now about a month,” continues the journal, “ since a young man presented himself at our bureau, and asked to speak to the editor of our paper. The editor was absent, and one of our contributors received him.

“ He was a young man, about twenty years old, with a countenance pale, interesting, and betraying suffering. This young man was—Jules Mercier.

“ He offered with a timid air a little roll of paper; the roll contained some verses, entitled, ‘ To Lelia !’ These verses we could not receive, having already, a few days before, inserted some on the same subject, and bearing the same title. A week after, the young man returned, bringing another set of verses, which he begged us to admit ; though the space they would occupy was considerable.

“ This piece was called “ The Gulph.” We promised that it should be examined.

“ The young poet seemed well satisfied, and promised to come the next day and receive our observations.

“ We expected him the next day — he did not come. We are never to see him more.”

* * * * *

* * * * *

But what dark and cadaverous gentleman is yonder, with a slight moustache, pointed beard and tuft, and long hair, stuck up in the middle and combed down on each side, so as to hang upon his shoulders?

That gothic chevalier is the son of a tallow chandler, corner of rue St. Denis. He does not think that the reign of chivalry is gone. No! but that he, the son of the tallow chandler, has become the chevalier.

Thus, here and there the prestige of an aristocracy remains; but then every one thinks he may be an aristocrat.

Just listen!—

Monsieur Marmote Fathay, the respectable son of a respectable bookseller, publishes some poems. ‘Fathay,’ pronounced ‘Fatty’ is a most unpoetical name, and the poems have little success. What happens?

Behold, in a new edition, ‘Fathay,’ odious appellation! has disappeared, ‘de’ is before the ‘Marmote,’ and ‘Alphonse’ before the ‘de,’ and read instead of ‘Poems by Marmote Fathay,’—

‘Poems by Alphonse de Marmote.’ Alphonse de Marmote! Who would dream that a name so aristocratic and so sonorous should have been formulated, (I use the French expression) from plain Marmote Fathay, the plebeian signature of a good-natured young bookseller.

But so it is, and half the world who doubt in christianity believe firmly in the nominal identity of—

“Alphonse de Marmote!”

Nor is this a singular transmogrification!

I was sitting the other day at the café de Paris; a tilbury with red wheels drove up to it, and a gentleman, with a Brobdignagian beard and whiskers to match, descended therefrom.

His hat, of singular shape, was nicely balanced on one side of his head, displaying an immense *chevelure* on the other. His

coat built about the skirts in the stern fashion of a Dutch frigate, was ‘*bleu de ciel*.’* His waistcoat, as variegatedly dazzling as a well shaken kaleidoscope, opened in the middle to display a green satin neckcloth, be-pinned and be-chained from the top to the bottom like a lady’s stomacher. This individual was nearly six feet high, and having taken a careful survey of his undusted boots, entered the café, humming a tune, and pulling about his curls, and brandishing his cane, and making as much as possible of all that appertained to his large and magnificently apparelled person,—‘*Eh ! bon jour, Baron !*’ said a creature, to all seeming of the same genius, who was standing at the entrance of the small room to the right picking his teeth. “Do you know who that is ?” said the friend I was dining with. We were sitting at one of that line of tables to the left, and nearly opposite the door, which the Baron had entered.

“Not I indeed,” said I.

“Well, I’ll tell you more about him than

* Sky blue.

he thinks, I dare say, that any body here is acquainted with.

“A lady,—do not ask about her virtue! first pointed out to me yonder hero. It was at the Variétés,—we were in a little dark box, and could not be seen; he was, as you may suppose, in the most conspicuous part of the theatre.

“‘Voilà un homme,’ cried the lady, ‘qui me doit beaucoup,—beaucoup,—beaucoup.’* ”

“Now, as I suspected my friend of being rather more addicted to borrowing than to lending, I uttered with great naïveté a rather surprized ‘*Comment ?*’† ”

“‘*Oui, oui,*’ said she.

“That young gentleman was the son of a French washerwoman, who said his father was an English general. For many years the old man had the malice to doubt this very creditable fact, and for many years, in consequence, *mon ami, que voila !*‡ ran about in very ragged *déshabille*, carrying, not unfrequently, a

* See there, a man who owes me a great deal—a great deal.

† How is that?

‡ My friend, whom you all see.

well-filled basket, now of clean and now of dirty clothes from and to the maternal garret.

“ The aptitude, however, which a death-bed creates, to believe in miracles, convinced the old gentleman, when he was about to die, that he might have, could have, and must have begotten the unfortunate and long forgotten Albert.

“ A will, in consequence was made, a fortune bequeathed, a soul, perhaps, saved, and a dirty lad who went to bed with five *sous* in his pocket, awoke the heir to 100,000fr. per annum, inscribed *sur le grand livre*.

“ Albert was then 19 years old. His mother washed for me !

“ ‘ Take my advice,’ said I to the mother, ‘ return this very night all your customers’ dirty linen, and start you by tomorrow’s diligence, off to your province. As to your son, I will make a gentleman of him.’ The old lady listened to my counsels, which I actually advanced 500 francs in support of; and Monsieur Albert was told that two little rooms in my apartment were at his service. Well, I kept him quiet, and had him taught to read and write,—he never made a very good scholar;—and to ride and

to walk ;—Oh ! mon Dieu, what pains I had with his elbows ; and to put on his hat, and to swing his stick,—you see he is always swinging his stick ! and then what drives we had in the Bois de Boulogne before I could make him sit decently in a cabriolet, or hold the reins like a christian.

“At last Albert only wanted four months of coming of age. ‘Go and travel,’ I said : ‘that is, go to my aunt in the country, (I have got an old aunt in Auvergne,) and wait there till I write to you.’

“Well, I took a large apartment for him on the Boulevards, and had it magnificently furnished, with a little boudoir *en gothique*. I had then all his table-cloths, and all his knives and forks, and all his porcelain, and all his pocket handkerchiefs, handsomely worked with a coronet, and the day before his arrival came a large packet from the country—to the *Baron*
* * *.

“Would you believe it ? for the first week of his arrival I sent him,—in different handwriting too—some by the twopenny post, some by the general post, some by a page, some by a groom, and some by a commissionaire—five hundred and sixty-two letters, all properly addressed, ‘To the Baron * * *.’

“From that week he was ‘Baron’ to all the world. His servants said, ‘Monsieur le Baron,’ I said ‘Monsieur le Baron,’ his new acquaintances said ‘Monsieur le Baron,’ and he himself signed himself ‘Le Baron de’ with all the natural dignity of a hero whose history was incorporated with the crusades.

“The young gentleman who walked into the café just now,” continued my friend, “is the identical Baron, who owes so much to the good lady to whom I owe his history.”

This is a fact !

But some titles are more ancient, and accompanied with greater worth.

The young M. de —, who was lately compromised in the affair of La Vendée, is a liberal royalist of the school of Châteaubriand and Martignac, and one of the most distinguished among the young nobility.

Never seen at the Tuileries during the prosperity of Charles X, immediately on arriving from Algiers, he hurried to Lulworth, and disdaining, as he says, to control a sentiment which he thinks chivalrous and noble, by prudential calculations, he has ever since been ready for any enterprise, however desperate, which the misguided family in exile have felt inclined to sanction. He will neither permit

himself nor any one else to reason with him on this subject. ‘If the mob had been reasonable,’ he says, ‘they would never have ventured with an army of hackney coaches to overthrow the ancient dynasty at Rambouillet.’

One observes in this young man, more strongly than in any instance I ever saw, how much depends on circumstances: the benumbing, soporific effects of prosperity, and the advantages which, in the development of intellect and character, adversity has the merit to bestow.

Five years ago ——— was a French dandy —occupied with little but his horses, his tilbury;—his neckcloths, his waistcoats, and pantaloons. Hurrying from amusement to amusement;—the only thought that ever came across him at times—was that he was bored. With an easy income, and one of the most illustrious names in France, (at that time a fortune), handsome, graceful, and just married to a wife in every way accomplished, he had all that could be desired; and yet, despite of this, there is no comparison in the measure of respect which he received from those who knew him then, and that which is paid him by those who know him now.

The life he leads and has led since the

revolution of 1830—is curious as a specimen of that pursued by many of his class. For the last two years he has spent eight months of each year in a lonely château in the country, with his thoughts and books. He has dismissed even the appearances of pleasure—horses, equipage, etc. In Paris he goes nowhere but to the club: at home, he never receives visitors, and is only to be found by one or two friends, whom he invites to a dinner which is nowise changed on their account. If he has any society, it is that of artists and men of letters, who, as he feels by a certain instinct, throw a dignity and poesy about his position. Such, too, is in general the society of that set of royalists to which he belongs—partly because the head of their party (M. de Châteaubriand) inspires a respect for his distinction—and partly because there is in their own feelings, and politics, and hazardous situation, a something noble, imaginative, and dangerous, which seeks for thoughts and sympathies higher than those of the ordinary kind.

But hostile as are the ardent and high spirited youth of the Faubourg St. Germain to the Prince chosen by the nation—there are few amongst them who attach any divine right to the principle of hereditary succession. They

consider it simply as a link between the past and the present; as a guarantee of stability and durability, as a decoration and illustration to the throne, but not as the sole foundation on which a monarchy can be founded.

As the party of Henry V has some few rational adherents amongst the young nobility, so the party of Louis-Philippe enlists from the higher '*bourgeoisie*,' and the gentry, a certain number of young men of serious habits and very extensive information.

These, as a class, however, belong rather to the Young France of the old régime which they opposed, than to the Young France of the new régime, which has embraced them. They were the young men who wrote in the *Globe*, and frequented the salon of the Duc de Broglie; a cold, enlightened, reasonable, pale-faced set of young men, who dream of liberty in a quaker's uniform, and have a code of politics as prim as their persons.

Born to be the partizans of the *juste-milieu*, they support conscientiously and with intelligence, the government of Louis-Philippe, and only commit the error of mis-judging the character and the temperament of the French. They will always be respected; they can never be beloved; and in a career which will be

honorable, they must resign the hope of being popular, among their fellow countrymen.

I know, many of my friends in France ! that you blame the *juste-milieu* ; you detest, you abhor the *juste-milieu* ; there is much to say against it, I accord to you. But good heavens ! to what is not one driven as an anchor from the restless nonsense which I have heard promulgated with the frantic air of philosophy, by some of those who are for launching the state vessel, rudderless, and compassless—and ballastless—on the immense ocean that lies immeasurable before you ?

Monsieur D * * *, a young artist, a hero of July, and decorated with the blue ribbon, called on me the other morning. He hates the government—why ?—“ It is not noble and pure.” He wishes for another—but what ? “ That is not his business ; all he undertakes is, to destroy.” Then a constituent assembly is to be called together ; a constituent assembly nominated by the poorer classes, *because the poorer classes are the most intelligent.*

“ Well,” said I, “ what would you first abolish ? ”

“ Oh ! les charges surtout ! Les honnêtes

hommes feront les affaires pour rien. Il ne faut point de droits, ni d'impôts, ni de police. Le peuple est conservateur ; on l'a vu à Paris et à Lyon. C'est inutile de prendre des précautions contre le bon peuple."*

"And what is your especial grievance now?"

"Some people have not enough, and some have a superfluity—and this must be remedied."

"How?"

"Oh! that is not my affair. Les pères de famille arrangeront tout cela. D'ailleurs l'éducation doit être gratuite."†

"But you say the people are already so well educated! Besides, if you educate the people, somebody will pay; if they (the people) do not,—the state must; but if the state pays, there must be taxes, and then, where's your theory?"

"C'est égal!—Je rêve de belles choses; nous les verrons. Il faut chasser cette canaille;

* Appointments above every thing. Honest men will manage the public affairs for nothing. We must have neither excise, nor taxes, nor police. The people is conservative; we saw this at Paris and Lyons. It is useless to take precautions against the people.

† The fathers of families will arrange all that. Besides, education should be gratuitous.

tous les gens d'énergie pensent comme moi.
Il y a des associations !”*

“What is the aim of your associations?”

“To associate—to know our number.”

“But have you no especial idea attached to these societies?”

“Yes ; que le monde soit plus heureux.”†

And many young men in France are like M. D***, and talk of great things and sublime things—vast pyramidal speculations—enormous at the base, imperceptible at the conclusion.

There they go, promising you a new future, a new political deluge, and a new political creation ; the Noahs of their time, and carrying about the ark of salvation from the Boulevards to the Palais Royal, from the Vau-de-villes to the Variétés—sauntering at a café—ogling a grisette—flourishing a switch—humming an opera, telling you are a brute if you do not admire the extravagances of Victor Hugo, or a rogue if you do not confess that M. ——— should be first Consul of the Republic.

Reader, if I wished to give you an idea of this section of “Young France,” I could do so

* Never mind. I dream beautiful things. We shall see them yet. But, first, let us rout these rascals. Every body with energy thinks as I do. There are associations.

† That the world may be more happy.

exactly. Look at Mlle. Déjazet,* in the uniform of Napoleon !!!

There is, however, a darker and more serious group in this otherwise unimposing picture.

I have spoken of the brave and ignorant republican, of the clever and careless man of letters, of the adventurous and successful poet, of the sensitive and enthusiastic suicide, of the vain and would-be-fashionable sonneteer, of the expensive and nameless noble, of the chivalric and rational royalist, of the calm and sensible ministerialist, of the wild and vague, and imaginative and well-meaning artist; every character I have sketched is a mirror of many more. But lo! with arms folded and lips compressed, a more thick-browed, and deep-thinking youth!

Here is the band which from a good education and an ardent temperament, build up—with much learning and labour—impossible theories.

Strange to say, even in that science which has taught us to look with intelligence into the Heaven above our heads, which has led us from consequence to consequence through the mysterious system of a thousand worlds.—Even in this exact and sublime science, there is, (on account, perchance, of its very sublimity, and

* A very clever, impudent-looking little actress.

exactitude,) but a deceitful guide, when we would thread the labyrinth of human philosophy, or navigate the storms of political life.

Strange to say, much that we blame as vague speculation, has been derived from logical and dogmatical conclusion. Much that we have considered as the wild ravings of a distempered imagination, has resulted from the desire to introduce a precise and mathematical absolutism into thought and action. Hence, of late years, in France, the singular, and to many, unaccountable spectacle, of the greatest theorists among men least addicted to visionary pursuits.

Go into yonder salon, where you meet the young doctors and philosophers of the hour!

This legist carries the principle of equality so far, that he believes there is no difference in intellect; that philosopher imagines the superiority of one individual over another so divine, that he would have set no limits to Bonaparte's despotism. Here is the christian geologist, who has just composed a new Genesis! There is the practical experimentalist, who has just performed a new miracle! The philosopher proves we shall have tails,* and

* See "New Philosophies."

the moralist counsels prostitution. There is a mixture of sense and nonsense, of virtue and vice, of learning and want of sound wisdom about this race which sometimes astonishes a foreigner, and sometimes amuses.

True; they are free from what the man of books, or the man of solitude would call 'ignorance.' They have learned most that study teaches, or meditation inspires. But there is a knowledge of human kind and of human affairs, which the practical mingling with the one in its variety of climes and races, and the practical handling of the other, except in rare and almost miraculous instances, can alone give.

It is this knowledge which sets us on the right side of that almost invisible line which separates the possible from the impossible; the ingenious theory from the profound reality; the lofty speculation on what will never happen, from the sober and derivative divination of what is about to come to pass. It is this knowledge which elevates the sophist into the philosopher; the speculator into the statesman: it is this knowledge which alone decyphers the mysterious scroll on which Providence writes—**THE NECESSITY OF THINGS.**

When Pythagoras and Plato conceived the idea of preaching a philosophy to their countrymen, they considered it a necessary part of their undertaking to visit Egypt and the Indies, and to acquaint themselves with the countries, and with the history, and the civilization of the countries which surrounded them. Not so the more positive and impatient founders of systems in Paris !

They live in a “set,” they talk in a “set,” they think in a “set,” and their thoughts are thus frequently most bounded, when they conceive they are most enlarged, and their language next to unintelligible, when they deem that they have arrived at the *ne plus ultra* of perspicuous expression. They believe those ideas to be most general, which they hear most frequently repeated, and those terms to be most explicit, which they have invented as mere pass-words among themselves.

As for other countries, they never take them into account.

The wants of the present epoch, and the philosophy of the present epoch—always supposing that these are to affect humanity in general—are never considered but as the wants of the present epoch, and the philosophy of the present epoch in France.

Christianity is to disappear, and a system of universal association to take place, because there are in France symptoms unfavourable to the one, and favourable to the other. The mind of England, the mind of America, the mind of Germany, at least as influential over the world's doctrines, as that of our enlightened, but somewhat variable neighbours, are considered as natural effervescences from the solid spirit of a French imagination.

I do not say this in despite, nor am I inclined to throw even a momentary ridicule upon the powerful workings of generous and ingenuous persons, whom I believe to be actuated by the noblest desire, viz. that of elevating and improving mankind.

But the mischief of jejune creeds, is their ever accompanying intolerance; and when I see young men, who have thought much, but who have beheld little, altogether ignorant of other lands, having but a partial knowledge of their own, necessarily unacquainted with the practice of Government, not easily delivered of even their own visions of philosophy, set up unhesitatingly some newly invented standard for every man's honesty and intelligence, and deem without scruple that all who do not submit to it are rogues or fools, or despots, or

aristocrats, I own that I do feel a strong desire to speak, not against the preaching of great changes in society and religion, if the necessity for these changes should force themselves after long and deep meditation upon our sober consciences; but against the adopting hastily, and preaching intemperately, such strange and startling doctrines as those which it is impossible for the philosophers of the medical and Polytechnic school to have imbibed, except on very superficial reasonings, and very brief observation.

“Stand upon the ancient roads,” says Bacon, “and see which is the good and the right one, and walk on in that.”

Antiquity deserveth so much reverence as that we should rest thereupon, and first discover which is the best way; *then*—when the discovery is well made, we may take progression.

But if a man will begin with certainties, he will end with doubts, whereas, if he be content to begin with doubts, he will end with certainties.

SOCIAL STATE.

CHAPTER IV.

Describe different classes of French society—The middle class is different in France from the middle class elsewhere, and more imbued with the spirit of other classes—Still the character of the shop-keepers on the whole prevails—Chamber, Jury, National Guard, etc. in the hands of this class.

I WILL now divide what remains for me to say on this subject into a view of the different classes of French society.

THE MIDDLE CLASS.

The middle class in France holds a particular position, and is different from any body that we should call by the same name in any other country.

In England the middle class is entirely composed of persons engaged in trade, the lower branches of commerce, farmers, attorneys, and persons retired from business, and living on the small capital they may have acquired in it. Their respectability is great, their views and feelings, sensible and moderate, but their influence has been much exaggerated; it is crushed between the great fortunes of the aristocracy on the one hand, and the extensive elective franchise of the working classes on the other.

In America there is no especial middle class; all the nation is composed of *our* middle class. This class were its original founders, and have been its constant settlers.

In France there is a middle class, not like the nation in America, not like the middle class in this country, but a middle class composed of the ruins of an old, and the elements of a new, state of society. We see there, as in those strata of the earth, where we find the mingled fossils of animals, and of fish, and of herbs, some antediluvian, the traces of a mighty shock which threw into unexpected companionship things, once heterogeneous, and buried the witnesses of a former world in the womb of the present one. Not only did the revolution of 89 break down the fortunes which separate

ranks—it broke down the habits. During that terrible reign, in which a noble name was a title of proscription, the lower classes lost all deference for the upper, and the upper all contempt for the lower.

The feelings which, on either side, had kept the two portions of society apart, disappeared; and as the victories of the consulate succeeded, elevating the peasant to the command of provinces and armies, and carrying a successful soldier of fortune to the topmost pinnacle of power, even that halo which sheds itself upon the aristocratic mansion and the princely palace, descended upon the cottage. High place and great consideration obtained by a quality—which, for the very reason, perhaps, that it is the most common among men, is the most commonly respected,—high place and great consideration—the consequence of successful valor—created a nobility without ancestors, and which had frequently its relations among the humbler orders of the people.

Here the daughter of an illustrious race, brought up by a mother almost starving, with no fortune and little education, was too happy to espouse the son of a grocer, whose bill it would have been difficult to pay. Here, too, the son of a grocer, risen into a distin-

guished general, emulated the equipage, lived in the society, and perhaps married into one of the families of that courtly set, who enchanted the modern master with the ancient recollections of Versailles. All men had been every thing, and connected with every body during those few eventful years, which only form half the life of this generation, but which will be the history of a republic and an empire—to posterity. The middle class in France then—I mean that class, who have a moderate or what we should call a small fortune, and move in an ordinary sphere of life—cannot be said to have altogether one particular set of habits, or one particular set of recollections, or one particular set of desires.

The seigneur has *fallen* into this class, the servant has *risen* into it, and these changes have taken place, and this amalgamation has been brought about, not by the steady hand of Time, that great but slow revolutionist, but by the running blow of Fortune, which, altering the position of men, still leaves their manners and their memories.

Thus, though the middle class in France may to a certain degree represent what may be called the shopkeepers, still it does not wholly represent them ;—while the shopkeepers them-

selves are not, if I may thus express myself, so completely shopkeepers as in other countries. They are more connected and more in the habit of mixing with other persons and other classes. They have less of frugality and caution, and more of elegance and luxury in their tastes and pursuits. They live in intimate companionship with the artist, the litterateur, the soldier; and feel no sort of barrier, either between themselves and those who have not yet risen into their sphere, or between themselves and those whose fortunes are superior to theirs.

It is because they are not so much a body apart in France as in other countries, that they better fill the station that is assigned to them in the French nation. They have not, to the same extent, those feelings of 'caste' which belong to the middling order in governments where ranks have been less mingled, and history is less violent and confused. They do not feel so alien to the lower classes, nor so distinct from the higher.

Still, the man who has sunk from opulence to mediocrity, or the man who is rising from indigence to wealth, is equally partial to order and tranquillity; and here the middle class in France, though composed so differently from

that elsewhere, is moved by the same impulse. Containing the soldier, it is averse to war, and springing in part from the lower ranks of the people, it is averse to revolution. Besides, though the middle class in France is not exclusively a class of shopkeepers, though the shopkeepers in France are different in many respects from those in countries where they form a rank, as it were, of their own,—yet it is the shopkeepers who compose the most bulky and important part of this class, nor are they wholly without the feelings and disposition natural to their calling. The government of the middle class, then, is sometimes called “the government of the shopkeepers,” and represents sufficient of its characteristics, when we oppose it to what might be called “the government of the army,” or “the government of the aristocracy,” or “the government of the working classes,” to justify such a description.

I say “the government of the middle class,”—for it is the object of the present constitution in France to give this class (though within a very limited sphere) the legal and representative power of the state. The chamber of deputies, the municipal councils, the juries, are all the representatives of this body—voting the public money, regulating the provincial admi-

nistration, wielding the judicial power, and thus maintaining in the will of the government that unity, which a centralized administration gives to its force.

“The law takes a fair estimate of the different influences and opinions, which in our state of society are the most proper to advance the cause of civilization and the interests of the country. Is it necessary to say that these opinions and these influences are the opinions and the influences of the middle classes, whose accession to power is the greatest and most prolific result of our fifty years of revolution ?

“And when people, in a spirit more philosophic than politic, reproach us for not establishing between all the opinions and all the influences a perfect equilibrium—when, in the name of the people who take no part in the dispute, these persons complain that the law gives to what they call the shopkeepers a decided preponderance, they only, in my idea, declare that the electoral law, as it exists, is good, just according to the principles of the revolution, and adapted to the wants of society.

“To whom indeed ought power to be given, if not to that *bourgeoisie* of whom we speak ?—To the aristocracy ? I am far from undervaluing the services that those classes have rendered in former times, or to deny the kind of historical pomp which still surrounds them. *But the blindest must see that the time for an aristocracy is gone by.*

“To the classes the most numerous and the poorest ?

“I know not, for my own part, if these classes will ever arrive at such a degree of intelligence, of civilization, and

of leisure as will give them the power of governing instead of being governed ; but this I know that at the present time they are not arrived at this state of capacity ; that at all events we must govern, not by them, but for them.

“ To the middle classes, then, to the middle classes alone belongs the government of France !”

Such is the language of Monsieur Duvergier D'Hauranne, one of the most distinguished among the young deputies of the *juste-milieu*.

THE ARISTOCRACY.

CHAPTER V.

Aristocracy still found in the drawing-room—Driven from the forum—Origin of government of the middle class—Bonaparte's two aristocracies—Destruction of majorats—Impossibility of hereditary peerage in France—Law respecting present peerage and fault of —

“An aristocracy in France,” says Monsieur Duvergier, “is gone by.”—

Let us go to Paris with this idea! Who is at the head of society there? The king? The court? that handsome and well-favoured prince whose apartments are so tastefully adorned in the Pavillon Marsan?

To the king, and his court—to the prince who is to be king and to have a court—behold! yonder salons of the elect are barred, banned!

To whom does the banker bow so low? To

the lady in favour at the illuminated Tuileries—or the dame who receives in a dark hotel in the Rue St. Dominique?

You tell me, Monsieur Duvergier, that the aristocracy is gone by. I know no country where it is more alive—in the drawing-room.

There is a club at the corner of the Rue de Grammont, composed of the persons best known *in society* at Paris.

The Duc de Luxembourg, the type of the old aristocracy, is chosen president by a great majority.

But enter a new arena! a complimentary address is to be presented to M. de Châteaubriand.*

The address is to produce a sensation: who should present it? The young royalists hold council together.

What person do they select to place at their head—this time? Do the young journalists and bankers and *rentiers* select Monsieur de Luxembourg, or Monsieur de Fitz-James, or Monsieur de Montmorenci? No; but the Duc

* On account of the pamphlet containing that famous phrase—

“Votre fils, Madame, est mon Roi,

Addressed to the Duchesse de Berri.

de Luxembourg, the Duc de Montmorenci, the Marquis de Fitz-James, select—Monsieur—Thomas.

“We have got a capital person,” said a Carlist to me. “We have got a capital person to present the address ; a Monsieur Thomas !!! Dieu’merci il n’y a rien d’aristoeratique dans ce nom là.”*

This is the circumstance to be remarked in France, a circumstance puzzling to most strangers.

That class, which we call the aristocracy, at the same time takes the lead in private society, and the tail in public affairs.

Defeated in the market place and the forum, it has entrenched itself in the salon ; and if driven from the chamber finds a consolation in breaking the hearts of the deputies’ wives.

An aristocracy then and the pretensions of an aristocracy, still exist in France, where an aristocracy and its pretensions can do little harm. When I say ‘harm,’ I may be using a wrong expression.

That elegant and graceful clique which flitted but five years ago, in all the suavity of power—for it is not power that is insolent and exclusive—round the royal person ; hostile as a

* Thank God ! there is nothing aristocratic in this name.

avored band to the interests of the people, forms as a discontented faction the best opposition to a court. They who would sneer at the just rebuke of M. Odillon Barrot, will writhe beneath the courtly satire of Madame de Noailles; and even Napoleon, after unhesitatingly crushing the constitution and the press, halted more than once before the whispered censure of a little brocaded circle, who respected his power to make kings, and smiled at his efforts to make chamberlains.

We may trace the fall, I mean the political fall, of the old nobility in France to Richelieu and to Louis XIV; undoubtedly they humbled the pride and weakened the provincial power of the feudal chieftains; but it is singular, as an historical fact, that the rise of that commercial class, on which M. Duvergier states the present government to be based, and which certainly placed the present monarch upon his throne, was more especially owing to the accidental reign of a Prince of the House of Orleans.

“ In the middle of a populous part of the town, between the streets of St. Denis and St. Martin, extends in the same direction an obscure passage, 450 feet long and 5 broad, bordered on either side by about ninety houses.

“ It is called Rue Quincampoix ; at a celebrated epoch it was called, *la rue* as Rome was called *la ville*. The two extremities of this street or passage were occupied by a guard, and fortified by an iron grate which opened at six in the morning and closed at nine at night. The nobility entered by one end, the vulgar by another ; *but the barrier once passed, the most fraternal equality reigned within.*”*

This was the vortex amidst the hissing eddies of which the materials of two revolutions were first forged.

At the head of a banking company sat Philippe, Regent of France, and grands seigneurs and sovereigns petitioned to be introduced, under such illustrious auspices, to the mines and the mysteries of jobbing.

What was an aristocracy ready to sell its birthright for a mess of pottage, and which threw the prestige of its nobility at the feet of a set of swindling Jews and brokers ?—Every consideration had been sacrificed for the sake of money, and money became, in consequence, the sole measure of consideration.

In vain then were the velvet hats, and nodding plumes, and graceful mantles of the ancient

* See Lemontey—Louis XV.

chivalry of France ! on the plain and simple body, which represented the interests of industry and commerce, all eyes in 1789 were fixed ; and, when the Tiers-Etat declared themselves the National Assembly, every one felt that in fact they *did* represent the nation.*

And now, over the gorgeous superiorities of the past, roll heavily the wheels of the revolution ; Napoleon, after the 18th of Brumaire, becomes first magistrate of France ; but what is society around him ?—to use his own expression —“ a mass of pulverized ruins,”—no part does he find more solid and elevated than the rest, on which the seat that he holds may repose, or the throne to which he aspires may be raised. He sought then to form an aristocracy ; but a new aristocracy — consistent with—nay, naturally arising out of—the new ideas, by which the old one had been consigned to the tomb.

In the “ Legion of Honour ” was incorporated a body, which, distinguished for arms and letters, possessed the two titles which at the time obtained national respect.

* Law it was who founded that reign of the *bourgeoisie* which expired with the Gironde, began recommencing after the empire, and has existed since the revolution of July, amidst, as I have elsewhere said, a variety of influences and opinions that are opposed to it.

But the empire succeeded to the consulate : an hereditary principle was to govern the state, and not wishing that the transmission of his sceptre should be a political anomaly, Bonaparte placed the fortune of his favorites upon the pedestal to which he had raised his own power.

Hence the institution of majorats : which, lying for the most part in a conquered territory, were given with the double object of attaching the nobility to the crown, and its conquests to the empire.*

* Majorats were unknown in the old French law, and were first instituted under the imperial régime.

The emperor, by the decree 30th August, 1806, created a number of different great fiefs, but in foreign countries, which were to be given to great services, and descend by order of primogeniture from *male* to *male*.

The alienation of these fiefs in foreign countries was authorised on the condition that other estates should be acquired in France and transmitted in the same manner.

A clause always enjoining the acquisition of such property by the man in case of defect of male issue.

This was one species of majorat.

There was also another ; the emperor being authorised to create a majorat in favour of any citizen who should have distinguished himself, which majorat was to be founded with the citizen's own private property.

In respect to entails, they were first limited to the second degree by an ordinance 1747, and afterwards prohibited 14th August, 1806. But they were again intro-

In the first instance this extraordinary personage was governed by the opinions of his time ; in the second he endeavoured to impose upon that time his own ideas.

duced by a law 3rd October, 1807, in an exceptional case thus expressed :—

“ Néanmoins les biens libres formant la dotation de titres héréditaires que l'empereur aurait érigé en faveur d'un prince ou chef de famille pourront être transmis héréditairement.”

In all these laws the emperor, as is evident, had the object in view :—of creating and perpetuating an aristocracy founded on merit.

They were attacked in discussion on three different grounds :—

1. As contrary to the best principles of political economy.

2. As opposed to the best rules of legislation.

3. As hostile to the soundest interests of morality.

On the first ground it was said that, by making any property inalienable, you took it out of commerce and circulation. The revenue of those majorats that were founded on the property of the emigrants was valued at four millions of francs.

On the second ground, it was urged that it established in perpetuity an unequal lot amongst families, and an impediment to merit.

On the third, the numerous social evils arising out of the poverty of one part of a family, and the exorbitant wealth of another, were demonstrated.

But in the attempt to turn back the current which had carried him so far forward, even the greatest man whom history has recorded was unsuccessful ; and thus the reign of Bonaparte remains—but an episode in the history of the French revolution.

Hark! at the very moment that I write, a new crash is heard among that feudal échafaudage, which this Charlemagne of the nineteenth century sought to raise amidst the ideas of Rousseau and the recollections of the convention.*

* LAW RELATIVE TO THE ABOLITION OF
MAJORATS AND SUBSTITUTIONS OR ENTAILS.

Article 1. All majorats are interdicted for the future.

2. All majorats, or portions of majorats, founded with private property before the promulgation of the present law, and which before such promulgation shall not have been transmitted, will return to their founders.

3. The majorats of the same nature, created before the promulgation of this law, shall only have effect in favour of those who shall be in possession of the properties thus affected, or who shall have acquired the right to claim them.

4. Nevertheless,^a in the case foreseen (by the article 2

^a This and the following article was inserted in favour of the women, who, since marriages are always an affair of calculation in families, had been induced most probably to marry under such considerations and expectations.

Surely if any proof were wanting for the justification of those who, five years ago, proclaimed the impossibility of supporting an

above), the property cannot be alienated or mortgaged by the founder, if he is married since the creation of the majorat, or before the present law, or if, having become a widower, he has children from the marriage he contracted.

So also in respect to the incumbent, when he shall have married since the institution of the majorat.

Nevertheless, the possessor of the majorat can, with the consent of his wife, dispose of the property, for the establishment of their common children, within the limits of the civil code.

5. If, at the time of the present law being promulgated, there exist expectants in succession, married since the creation of a majorat, there shall be in their favour an exception to articles 2 and 3, and they will in consequence receive the majorat, and enjoy it in conformity with the restrictions contained in article 4.

6. The shares which the younger children or widows shall have acquired over property composing such majorats shall be preserved to them.

7.^a The dotations, or the portions of dotations, consisting of property subjected to the right of returning to the state, will continue to be held and transmitted according to the article of investiture, and without prejudice to the expectations opened by the law of 5th October, 1814.

^a In the preceding articles mention only has been made of majorats founded on private property.

hereditary peerage in the country of which I am writing, such proof would be found in the present enactment of laws,—laws dictated less by the head than the heart of the nation,—laws the most popular among that middle class which M. Duvergier says *must reign*,—laws destroying the sole foundation on which an aristocracy of descent can be maintained.

Let us be sure of this! when there exists any body in a state, mingled up in the people's concerns, but about which the people feel no interest—a body, the opinion of which can be crushed by the will of a minister, without exciting a murmur in the nation—the persons whose titles, under such circumstances, the monarch may attach to the peerage, are of no more importance than those whose names he, with the same benevolence, affixes on the pension list. They are debtors to the royal bounty, but they are not invested with public consideration.

8. The disposition of the five above-named articles are applicable to the entails made in virtue of the law 27th May, 1826.

9. Abolished in every thing contradictory to the present law the act imperial of 30th March 1806, the "*senatus consulte*" of the 14th August following, and the decrees of the 18th of March 1808, and the law of 17th May 1826.

The object of a second chamber is the institution of a court of national appeal. For its decisions to be valid, such a court must be independent of the crown, and respected by the people;—for its decisions to be just, such a court must be intimately connected with the habits, the state of property, the sentiments, and the state of society in that country where it exists.

But, even before these later edicts, during the haughtiest times of the restoration, what, in France, was the hereditary chamber?

There it stood! the image of Nebuchadnezzar's idol. On its front were written great names and historical recollections; its head was of gold; but its feet were of clay!

It could not be an efficient body in the government of France, for it was not a body analogous with the society of France.

If the property of the peerage were allowed to undergo the ordinary rule of succession, royalty had before it a small number of families whom it might be necessary to gain for political purposes, and easy to gain by ministerial and courtly favors.

If, on the contrary, laws were made for the continual accumulation of wealth in these families, there was created, in a state where the

whole nation was interested in a particular distribution of fortune, and the social and political consequences resulting from it,—a small band, perpetually alone, and aloof from that nation—a band which must have ideas, and habits, and interests totally different from those for whom they were legislating.

Leave this body in the ordinary condition of their fellow citizens, and you deliver them into the hands of the sovereign ; separate them and their childrens' children from their fellow citizens, and you destroy that identity which is necessary between the governor and the governed.

Besides, in forming a chamber which ought to comprize the superiorities of a country, it is always necessary to consider what, in that country, will most readily be considered superiorities.

If ancient descent, if large fortune form those distinctions which the people most willingly acknowledge—on ancient descent and on large fortune base your upper chamber !

The possessor of a large fortune may be looked up to for protection in a country where there is a great class possessing large fortunes.

Such is still the case in England.

The possessor of ancient descent is looked up to in a country, the great nobles of which

enjoy an independent existence, and are by action and history connected with the popular cause.

Such was the case in England.

But shew me a state with thirty-two millions of inhabitants, and where there are not above 1,500 landed proprietors with 1,200*l.* a year !*

What sentiment will a great fortune, entailed on a few families, create? Respect and confidence?—no; suspicion—suspicion, because instead of being the guarantee to a large class that their condition will be maintained, these few families will exist as a perpetual source of fear to the country, that its existence will be changed.

So, if I find amongst a nation, become deeply attached to popular privileges, a nobility which, during the days of its grandeur was nourished by courtly favour, I know that the names which revive national antipathies will not be proper conductors to public respect?

The two conditions necessary to hereditary legislation exist not in France; and if you give, as a reason for its institution, the advantages it once produced in England, you may as well advocate the culture of the sugar cane in Norway, because it flourished in St. Domingo.

* About 939 properties pay from 4000 to 5000 francs—the 6th of their revenue; but as other properties joined are in the hands of the same possessor, from 1400 to 1500

But the most amusing circumstance in the very remarkable discussion which took place a short time ago in respect to the nature of the peerage in France, was this!—

All the necessities on which an hereditary assembly is founded—nobody desired. A different distribution of property, a great respect for privileged orders—God forbid!

The state of society out of which such an institution naturally arises, was declared to be abominable on all sides; it was the institution itself that a few, no doubt very wise statesmen and philosophers, wanted, without any of its effects, or any of its causes.

This isolated peerage was not to be directly connected with the country, but something separate from the country; not a body reposing upon 80,000* great proprietors—this was denounced as most atrocious—but a nice little body of 300 persons, dropping from the clouds, for there seemed nothing on earth they could arise from, and totally distinct from every body and everything around them.

is about the calculation.—See Introduction, France, ‘Literary, Social, and Political.’—vol. i. p. xxii.

* Ce n’est pas 80,000 tyrans que nous voulons imposer au pays, ce sont seulement 300 individus que nous voulons investir de hautes fonctions. Voilà tout.—*M. Thiers.*

An aristocracy may be still possible and desirable in France, but not an hereditary aristocracy. For qualities that confer individual respect individuals might be chosen, who would form a body universally respected; but these qualities would not be a pedigree posteriorating to the crusades, nor a fortune accumulated under laws at variance with the habits and ideas of the existing generation.

As the passion for military glory was stronger during the olden time than the pride of birth, so is it stronger at the present time than the pride of equality.

In the reign of Louis XIV, the court saw, without a murmur, the title of 'duke,' which was a right, submit to the title of 'marshal' which was a gift. In the reign of Louis-Philippe, the nation elevates the distinctions of the camp above the doctrines that denounce distinctions among the people.

Nor is the sentiment inspired by success in letters, less than that which follows success in arms.

"Les dieux que nous avons maintenant," said a person of no small celebrity lately—"ce sont la science et l'art; nous sommes secoués dans les théâtres et dans la cour comme nous étions jadis dans les églises, les

cœurs que nous avons enlevés aux prêtres, nous les devons tout entiers aux philosophes et aux poètes.”

The French have one chamber composed of the mediocrities of their country ;—a chamber neither elected by the people, who are always attached to the pomp and circumstance of talent ; nor by the great proprietors, who, whatever their faults, usually take a noble aspect of public affairs. The chamber of deputies, chosen by a small body of the middle classes, represents the mediocrities of France.

If you wish for another assembly, which the king and the people shall respect, and to which the chamber of deputies can be appealed from, it must be an assembly composed—not of the superiorities of past times, nor of foreign states, but of the acknowledged and existing superiorities of France.

To create such an assembly, was the intention of those who founded the present chamber of peers ; but I cannot but think there is a radical vice in the very origin of this institution.

You wish for an independent body, composed of persons whose distinctions shall impose a popular authority upon the sovereign’s opinions, or give the sanction of superior capacity and intelligence to the counsels of the people’s assembly.

You wish for this, and what do you do? you organize the existence of your political creation so as to cripple it at its very birth. Will those who are named by the king receive the faith of the people, or can they be firm against the sovereign's displeasure?—The head which should be crowned with popularity, is dishonored by suspicion, and the hand that should be armed with independence, is paralyzed by gratitude.

LAW CONSTITUTING THE PEERAGE OF THE MONARCHY OF THE REVOLUTION.

Louis-Philippe, King of the French, to all present and to come—*salut!*

The chambers have adopted—we have ordained, and ordain as follows :—

ARTICLE UNIQUE.

Replacing 23rd Article of the Charter.

The nomination of Members of the Chamber of Peers belongs to the King, *who can only choose* among the notabilities following.*

The number of peers is illimited.

* For Notabilities, see Appendix.

Their dignity shall be given for life and is not transmissible by order of nomination.

L. PHILIPPE.

Palace of the Tuileries, 29th Dec. 1831.

STATE OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

CHAPTER VI.

State of Working Classes more favorable than formerly—
Division of Property—Saving Banks and Associations
—Population in Towns and Country—The Population
in the former require Poor Laws—System existing—
But though the people in towns are badly off, this is
rather on account of dissipated habits than want of
wages—How to remedy this—Immediate necessity
for improving the Working Classes, since the Govern-
ment which has passed the Aristocracy must descend
to them—Police Regulations promoting order amongst
them—Causes of late disorders, &c.

THE monarch,* whose solitary statue escaped
the revolution of July, owes great part of his

* Henry IV.

popularity to the wish, which no doubt he as honestly expressed as easily forgot, viz. “that every peasant should have a chicken in his pot for his Sunday’s repast;”—and still, the desire which every philanthropist feels to arrange society under a law that shall protect the interests and advance the happiness of the multitude—and the difficulty which every legislator finds in carrying into practice such benevolent intentions—makes us look with peculiar interest on any community, whence instruction is to be derived, in this, the great lesson, to be taught the rulers of mankind.

From what I have already said of “the lower classes” in France, it may be concluded that I have formed a favourable opinion as to their condition; but I would now enter into the present state and future prosperity of this body with more detail.

What a different picture shall I have to draw from that given us by Rousseau, when quitting the divided soil of Savoy, he first placed his foot on that country over which he was destined to exercise so powerful a sway, and which he then found in the possession of a bankrupt nobility and a starving people!

In the first place:

The period of human existence has increased

by seven years, since the calculations made in 1780; and when we consider that this increase, here taken in the average, ought to be almost entirely given to the poor, who have chiefly profited by it, we shall have some idea of the increased comforts and advantages they enjoy.

And now, much that I have said on the division of property comes again under consideration.

The number of landed proprietors may, certainly, be calculated at five millions.

The number of persons, who, as the head of some trade or industry, paid the tax on patents in 1832, were 1,118,500;—add the number of persons not included in either of the above denominations, and who possess mortgages, houses, or shares of houses, or capital invested in the funds!

Surely I may say, if to these holders of patents I add the various possessors and proprietors of land, of houses, of funded property, and of mortgages, there will, at the lowest estimate, be 7,000,000 persons, which, allowing four for a family, make 28,000,000 interested, because, according to the French law of succession, a share of this property will come to them—in some species of property or other: there

remain then but 4,500,000, who have not property, or the expectation of it.

How many of these have accumulated, and are still accumulating the means of independence in those banks, institutions worthy of the social epoch in which we live—banks formed by the benevolent intelligence of the rich, in order to relieve the burthens, and at the same time encourage the industry of the poor—banks already existing in Amiens, Avignon, Besançon, Bordeaux, Douai, Dunkerque, Havre, Lyons, Luneville, Metz, Mulhausen, Nantes, Orleans, Paris, Rennes, Rouen, Rheims, St. Etienne, Toulon, Toulouse, Versailles, — and demanded in Annonay, Carcassonne, Cherbourg, Lille, Mâcon, Montargis, Nancy, &c. &c.

SAVINGS' BANKS FORMED.

From 1818 to 1830	.	.	.	11
1832	.	.	.	4
1833	.	.	.	12
1834	.	.	.	20
Since	.	.	.	39

86*

* It is to be remarked, that the lottery decreased in almost the same proportion—in the three first months in 1834, it had diminished by 3,687,000 francs :—it is now abolished.

In 1826, eight years after the creation of these establishments, in a hundred persons depositing their savings, there were not above 16 of the working classes; in 1831, there were 43.

A considerable portion of this body indeed in Paris, has savings deposited in the savings' banks,* and a great number also belongs to some kind of benevolent society.

The progress of these benevolent societies is worthy of notice :

From 1810 to 1830, were authorized	185
From 1830 to 1834 . . .	32
During . . 1834 . . .	27
	<hr/>
	244

They are generally formed amongst workmen of the same profession, paying a small monthly contribution, (from 1 to 3 francs) in consideration of which relief is to be afforded (about 1 franc a day) when sickness, infirmity, or accident deprive them of employment.

The earliest associations of this description are :—

* In 1830, the savings' bank of Paris alone received 93,284,325 francs, subdivided into 751,567 deposits made by different persons at different times.

That of St. Anne, founded for all professions in 1694, and containing 160 members. -

That of cabinet makers founded 1760.

That of typographers, founded 1789, possessing 80 members, and an income of 1,750 francs.

The most numerous are :—

That of the hatters, that of the paper makers, that of the printers, and that of the painters on porcelain ; some of these have a capital of 15,000 to 16,000 francs.

The persons absolutely dependent upon their daily labour for support—who if thrown out of employment have no kind of resource—must necessarily then be small. The population of the rural districts are frugal, sober, and laborious, anxious to obtain a piece of ground, or to extend that which they possess ; proud of the title of “ peasant ” which is usually linked with that of “ proprietor,” simple, indefatigable and independent. Here you will hardly find a pauper, except from malady or accident.

In rural villages, indeed, I have frequently found, upon inquiry, not more than two or three poor (I mean supported by charity) in a population of 1,500—and these were persons corresponding with Mr. Cobbett’s account, not

unable to find work, but incapable of performing it.

In towns, however, the case is different.

M. Bigot de Morogues, in a work lately published, gives a curious notice of this distinction, and, according to him, indeed, the number of poor is almost relative to the number of large towns in any particular district.

In the towns of above 50,000 inhabitants, and in the depart- ments they belong to, we find, he says, on 10,000 inhabitants.	Beggars or Indigent.	Under the "Surveillance" of the Police.
In 26 departments which have towns above 20,000 persons, on 10,000.	1,040	170
In 50 departments which have towns above 6,000 persons, on 10,000.	560	130
In those departments which have no town above 5,000 persons, on 10,000.	490	110
	380	60

Monsieur de Villeneuve draws similar conclusions :—

In towns of above 1,500 persons, he estimates one tenth as paupers.

And in the rest of France one thirtieth.

In the northern departments, where land is *less divided* than in general, and cultivated with *larger capitals*, there is by far the greatest

number of indigent ; and in the towns of this division, pauperism has even risen to an alarming extent.

“ Here,” says M. Villeneuve, “ the poor consist of workmen, ignorant, improvident, brutified by debauchery, or enervated by manufacturing labors, and habitually unable to support their families.”

These statements are curious, for they corroborate much that we find, and which I have ventured to remark, in England—shewing that in France also the greatest misery is frequently to be seen in those spots where wealth is on the most rapid increase.

A new consideration here arises, which, as it is connected with a question exciting deep interest amongst ourselves, I shall take the liberty to speak of. People have occupied themselves much with discussing whether there should be ‘ poor laws,’ or whether there should not be ‘ poor laws,’—paying little attention, for the most part, to the state of society to which such institutions are to be applied : though it is precisely that state of society which may render them altogether useless or imperatively requisite.

When we look at France, which has no law upon the subject, we find a certain necessity

making regulations, and preparing the minds of men for regulations, according to the various circumstances it has to provide for.

In the rural districts, and in those rural districts more especially, where property is in the greatest degree divided, the proposition of a poor law would be treated as absurd.

Because, first ;—the labourer is not altogether dependant upon wages ; he has something, when out of employ, to fall back upon, and his patch of ground supplies the place of the poor rate.

Because, secondly ;—the great mass who possess property, have no fear of the small number who have nothing : and because, thirdly ;—the very small number who are out of employ, and have no bit of ground, or who, from sickness or accident, are incapable of working for themselves or others, are of the same class, and frequently of the same parentage, as those from whom relief is to come ; therefore no law is required to oblige persons to an act of duty and charity, which their own feeling, and affection, or the opinion of all around them would compel them to perform.

But just in the degree that you approach other places, where the labourer has nothing to depend upon but his wages—where the

possessors of wealth are few, and naturally in dread of the desperation of the greater number;—and where, moreover, the different distribution of fortune has so separated the classes, as that the poor can appeal to no one among the rich, except on some regulation made among the rich themselves;—there you observe, as in the Department du Nord, for instance, where the greatest capitals are found, and where four towns,

Lisle	}	Population.
Valenciennes		
Cambrai		
Dunkirk		
		121,389.

furnish 36,230 paupers;—there, I say, you observe, to use the words of M. Villeneuve, “*que la taxe des pauvres s’est forcément introduite* ;”—and so, let people reason as they will, it must introduce itself, as a wise and prudent policy of the wealthy, wherever society is fluctuating, and the many have nothing to depend upon more certain than their casual employment.

Paris, the natural reservoir for the enterprize of the kingdom, (out of 3,347 persons relieved in one of the arrondissements of Paris, (1834) 2,196 were not of Parisian birth, and 179 not of French extraction,) gives no idea of the state

of tranquil sufficiency which prevails throughout the country in general; but it is there, that the present system for the relief of the poor is most developed, and can best be studied.

The budget of that metropolis contains a charge of 10,186,388 francs for the poor;* the aid given being under the following heads:

1. Public establishments 24; 13 being hos-

* This charge is supplied by the following sources:—

Revenus en argent, loyers, fermages, etc.	1,136,271
Fermages en nature.	295,000
Rentes sur l'état.	1,201,472
Rentes sur les particuliers.	11,000
Dons et legs.	100,000
Intérêts de capitaux.	12,000
Journées de malades, pensions payées pour l'admission.	386,100
Produits intérieurs, successions hospitalières.	81,200
Mont-de-Piété.	231,970
Spectacles.	600,000
Marchés créés.	296,300
Recettes diverses.	30,000
Subvention par la ville de Paris.	5,238,000
Subvention par le département pour les enfans trouvés.	400,000
Subvention extraordinaire pour grands travaux.	92,000
Emploi des capitaux de l'administration.	75,075
	<hr/>
	10,186,388

pitals destined to the sick, and containing 5,337 beds ; and 11 “ hospices ” or houses where the indigent and infirm may be received to the number of 11,740 persons.

2. Relief sent to persons at their own houses.

3. Les enfans-trouvés.

The movement, 1833, of the population in these establishments, was as follows :

	Hospitals.	Hospices.	Total.
Individuals there 1st Jan.	4,170	9,557	13,727
Admitted during the year	61,765	3,190	64,955
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	65,935	12,747	78,692

To these numbers are to be added—

1. Enfans trouvés, in the country or at Paris, on the 1st Jan. (orphans included)	17,435
2. Enfans trouvés, abandoned during the year	5,693
3. Children placed out to nurse by the bureau des nourrices*	1,760
4. Indigent assisted at home	68,986
	<hr/>
Total number altogether being	172,566†

* A bureau to which persons desiring children to nurse can apply. The applicants are submitted to certain regulations, and must be monthly examined.

† i.e. one to eleven persons in Paris, double the proportion which the poor bear to the population in France in general.

There are also at the outskirts of Paris, large establishments, or houses of repression, where all persons, without employment or profession, are received—but these originally intended as charitable, are almost become penal institutions, and chiefly contain persons whom the police deem it expedient thus to dispose of.

The most interesting part of the statement I have entered into, is that relating to the aid given the indigent at their own houses, and which is extended, as it appears, to no less than 68,986 individuals ; concerning whom I refer to the annexed statement.

This relief is chiefly administered in kind, and mostly through the medium of tickets upon the baker, the butcher, etc. ; relief in money being reserved chiefly for the aged and infirm.

This is done by the aid of 12 bureaux of charity or benevolence, one to each of the arrondissements of Paris.

These bureaux are under the superintendence of the prefect of the department, and the council general, which has charge of the general administration of the hospitals, hospices, etc.

Each bureau is composed :

1st. Of the mayor of the arrondissement, (as president) and his two adjuncts of the

curate of the parish, and his desservans (curates or assistants.)

2nd. Of 12 other administrators named by the minister of the interior, renewed every year by one fourth, according to the order of their nomination.

3rd. Of an indefinite number of visiters to the poor, and "ladies of charity" (ladies who give up their time to charitable pursuits) named by the bureau, but not assisting at its deliberations except when invited.

4th. In those arrondissements where there is a protestant church, of the protestant clergyman.

5th. Of a responsible agent, under the title of secretary and treasurer, who receives a salary and is obliged to give security.

Out of Paris—

Houses of repression, as established in 1793,* have been found not to answer, and they

* By a decree of the 20th of May, 1790, two convents were provisionally assigned, one for the reception of the infirm poor, one for the reception and employment of those who were not unfit for labour.

18th of October, 1793, "houses of repression" were formed—establishments in which every able man was received and employed at 3-4ths the ordinary wages given in the canton.

Every "Chef-lieu" of a department was to have

now only exist where a number of different communes unite to form one.

one of these houses of repression, and every one begging, was to be punished in the first instance with *one* year's, in the second, with two years' imprisonment.

But the most remarkable attempt at a really wise poor law made in these times, was by a decree published May 11th 1794, commanding the formation of "a book of national benevolence," divided under three heads :

1. Cultivators, old and infirm.
2. Artizans, old and infirm.
3. Mothers and widows of the same having children.

Under the first head, every poor man, sixty years old, furnished with a certificate attesting that he had been employed for twenty years in the cultivation of the soil, was to receive 160 francs a year.

The number of such persons was fixed at 400 for each department, and a sum of 7,544,000 francs for this purpose was placed at the disposal of the commission of public charities.

Under the second head, all artisans under sixty years old, infirm and poor, and who had exercised any industry for twenty-five years, were entitled to 120 francs per ann.

The number of these was fixed at 200 per department, and the sum allotted 2,040,000.

In respect to the mothers and widows having children, all mothers having two children under ten years, and a third at breast ; all widows having one child under ten years and a second at breast, had a claim to the annual charity of sixty francs, and twenty francs additional, if

Here too they act like the two establishments I have mentioned at the outskirts of Paris, less as charitable than as penal or restrictive institutions, and are principally maintained with a view of preventing the circulation of improper characters through the country.

Each commune has a bureau of charity or bienfaisance, similar to those bureaux I have described in Paris, and a *hospice* or house of reception.

These are supported partly by charitable be-

at the expiration of the year, they presented their child alive to the agent of the commune.

Six hundred and fifty wives and widows thus situated, and one hundred and fifty widows, who had no children, and who received considerably less.

The sum here allotted was 3,060,000.

A recompense was also given by the same law to any "*mère filles*," to virgins with children !

The expense of this project, however congenial to the spirit of the time that produced it, was found more than the state, burthened with a war, could bear—and it only remains as a monument of the great and beneficent designs, which the madmen of the republic, at the very moment that they were sending their fellow citizens by battalions to the guillotine, no doubt contemplated :—such are the contradictions of mankind ! and such the injustice of history when it praises or condemns without restriction.

quests which form a permanent fund, partly by charitable donations, and partly by the sum voted by the municipal council, a sum regulated by the wants of the poor and the capacity of the commune.

The law still punishes any *valid* beggar with imprisonment, and the punishment becomes heavier if he begs out of his commune.*

Invalid beggars also, may for the act of begging, be sent to the *hospice* or house of reception, which, if they have any other means of subsistence, though the accommodation in most of these houses is good, they hate and avoid.

Thus, there are two methods of relief adopted, the one administered at home, to persons accidentally reduced to want, and who wish not to sink into the class of beggars in perpetuity ; the other, given in houses of refuge, to persons less sensible of shame, and who would be inclined to imitate indigence in order to obtain the occasional luxuries of wealth.

* But this law, except in extraordinary cases, where the beggar is a known vagabond, or takes no pains to find employment, is rarely enforced. A calculation that gives 198,000 beggars in France, states that 500 were convicted of begging

But though the people in towns, and more particularly in manufacturing towns, seem liable to distress, it is fair and necessary to say, that this seems less caused by the real wants than the improvident habits of the people. I may cite one instance at Lyons.

The whole land-tax of the department of the Rhone (in which Lyons is situated) is 2,876,300 francs, and for 10 years prior to 1830, the annual amount of money put into the lottery in the town of Lyons alone, was 3,400,000 francs.*

I subjoin a table which I have taken much pains to form, and which states many particulars relative to the class I am describing at Paris.

As it may be seen from this table, the characteristic weakness of the working classes in France, is the desire for amusement, and for such amusements as cannot be enjoyed without expense. They waste the Sunday, very frequently the Monday or Tuesday, in the guinguettes, the theatre; there is no con-

* It might be said, that it was the richer and not the poorer classes by whom this money was subscribed; this objection, however, is met by the fact, that since 1830, when the price of the lowest shares was raised to two francs, the produce of the whole decreased by one half.

trol over this habit. There is no duty, no passion to counterbalance it, for there is no religion, or little religion, in the cities more especially; neither has the education hitherto given to the working classes, offered more intellectual resources than the tavern at the *barrière*, or the *spectacle* on the Boulevards. The child, taking to any trade, having received little instruction during his boyhood, starts at eighteen, to make the tour of France. He passes from town to town, contracting, as it is easy to suppose, more vices than virtues in his way, and ends either by settling in the capital or returning to his native town, with the information he has thus acquired.

It does not so often happen then, that a fair subsistence cannot be acquired in the towns, as that it is either extravagantly expended, or not sought to be procured. The evil to remedy is a moral evil, which can only be remedied by moral improvement. The new law on education, must produce its effect; but there is a particular species of education adapted to the working classes, adapted especially to the working classes of France, and which, existing in France, to a certain extent it is to be expected, that an intelligent and philanthropic government will attempt to im-

prove. If you tell the man and his wife, who are just starting off for their Sunday's debauch, that they would do much better to come and hear a lecture on painting or chemistry, they will not be likely to listen very patiently to your injunction. But if you shew them a beautiful picture, explain its subject, mark and make them remark the characteristics, and the talents of the artist, they will receive your lesson as an amusement, and have the satisfaction of learning without the suspicion of being taught. The same may be said of chemistry, even of astronomy, the illustrations of which I remember seeing when a boy, with a kind of mysterious pleasure, resembling, but far exceeding, that which I should have received from a play.

Monsieur le Chevalier, an officer in the engineers, of very considerable attainments, instituted shortly after the revolution of July, a gratuitous course of lectures upon this plan, and especially adapted to the working classes. These lectures were delivered in the Théâtre Molière, and attended by about 3,000 of the working classes of Paris. M. le Chevalier would sometimes conduct these men to the Louvre, point out to them the pictures most deserving attention, recount the history of the artist, the subject of the piece, and

every day so entertaining a professor found himself surrounded by new disciples.

It is to be regretted that these lectures, which commenced with the simple intention of improving the moral condition of the poor, were afterwards converted to political purposes. The government then found itself obliged to discourage them, and M. Le Chevalier himself abandoned his voluntary professorship. Since which time, though still continued, they are little attended, and only exist as a memorial of what might be achieved on a similar plan, and which, if instituted by the government, would be under its controul.*

* I shall be much misunderstood, if it be supposed that I mean to deny amusements to the poor, and condemn them, as the condition of their destiny, to unceasing toil. But there are amusements which elevate the character, and there are amusements which debase it; amusements which strengthen the body, amusements which enfeeble it. There are expenses also which lead to improvement and comfort, as there are expenses which lead to idleness and want. The money spent in drinking, which is an amusement, is better spent on a book, which, read to the family, is an amusement also. A more comfortable piece of furniture, a larger and more healthy apartment, warmer clothing;—these are not amusements certainly, but the poor man would frequently do well in these respects to sacrifice a day's pleasures, in order to procure what will add considerably to his year's happiness. It

It may be asked, of what use is painting, of what use is history or chemistry to the poor ? I answer that all knowledge is useful in softening the mind, in opening the intelligence ;—all knowledge is useful moreover which comes as a substitute for some more vicious gratification. But a practical illustration is now before me ;—the best proof for or against a disputed theory.

Travel over France, visit every great town of that great empire, where will you find the working classes most decent in their behaviour, most respectable in their appearance ? at Metz ; and why at Metz ? There, there are lectures established and supported by the respectable inhabitants and officers of the town,—lectures on chemistry, history, &c.*

The change which has been produced among the working classes of Metz by these means is something marvellous. It is to be traced immediately in their manners. If you meet a

is not that I wish to circumscribe the relaxations of the poor there, I only wish to give them such relaxations as will not withdraw them from industry nor deprive them of their comforts.

* Every person may have a ticket on applying for it ; but if he misses *three* times, his name is erased from the list, and the ticket is forthwith refused to him.

working man, you find him polite, polished, correct in his language, easy without being confident in his conversation. You would take him, if he were not worse dressed and better informed, for a respectable *bourgeois* of Paris.

There seems, I admit, something theoretical in these projects of excessive perfection ; but in France—attention is invited to them, not by any benevolent dream of distant philanthropy, nor any prospective consideration for future generations. The wisdom and policy of the day, of the hour, call the legislature to active and incessant preparation for that great scheme of democracy, now in the first stage of its development, but which is likely, even during the lifetime—of us whose eyes are now open—to have a prosperous or fatal trial.

There is that sanctity in great names and deeds, there is so natural and almost holy a veneration implanted in us for antique recollections and superstitions, that it is impossible for society long to make a stand on the line which separates the mass from the nobility. But that barrier once passed, who can for a moment pretend that all others will not shortly give way ? Monsieur Thomas and Monsieur de Montmorency stand already in the same position before

the state ;—can Monsieur Thomas, who pays 200 frs. of direct taxes, and Monsieur Thomas, who pays 100 frs. stand long in a different one ?

It is to this sentiment of their force—and also to the presentiment of their destiny—it is to the conviction (forced on them from the tribune, and the stage, by the press and the revolution of July)—it is to the conviction that they have a power unacknowledged by the state, which power is daily becoming greater, that we may attribute those transient disorders that for the last four or five years have broken out among the working classes, now exercised against the government, now against their masters.

Few countries, indeed, are so called upon to watch over their manufacturing population, as that France which adds all the fickleness and fierceness of its own character to the frequent variations and occasional severities of commerce.

Prior to the first revolution, all disputes between the different orders in trade were confined to the corporations which had each their own banner, (forming thus—so few institutions are there without their precedent—a species of national guard) their own government, their own laws, their own hierarchy—an hierarchy which repressed industry, but regulated its

movements, and infused the conservative spirit of an aristocracy into the breast of the artisan and the mechanic.

The revolution which visited the chateau did not spare the workshop—those bodies, the constitution of which it might have been wiser to alter and modify, were at once destroyed. None could any longer say that their talents were unacknowledged and repressed by the society they belonged to ; but none could any longer say that they belonged to a society which had a right to redress their grievances and relieve their wants.

These old associations—condemn them as we may—gave to every class and to every age an assigned and an expected place. The lad on quitting his parents found a family in the profession into which he entered—a family which profited by his labour, and provided for him when he was incapable of finding employment. The master and the workmen then united together to support their trade, instead of struggling, as now, to divide its profits. Industry was confined within certain channels and order given peculiar securities.

The abrupt abolition of a vast assemblage of old laws, some of which must, even from their

long continuance, have created necessities—was followed shortly afterwards by a succession of new laws, having for their object the restoration of that discipline which had been too suddenly disarranged.

The decree of 22 Germinal an XI (12 April 1803) and of 9 Frimaire, (1 December, 1803) established the *livret*—a certificate which every workman, under the penalty of being treated as a vagabond, is obliged to have.* On this certificate is written his age, the place of his birth, and the name of the person whom he last served, or to whom he was apprenticed.

Here too the money he receives, the debts he incurs, the agreements he enters into, the character he has deserved, are all recorded.† On quitting one master, he presents it to the other, whose service he is about to enter :—the manufacturer knows the antecedents of the man he employs, the police of the man who travels, *soi-disant*, in search of employment. In this manner the surveillance of the old corporations has been in some degree restored ; so

* The *livret* has been extended to soldiers and servants in large towns.

† On entering any service, the master writes the date on the *livret* ; it must be visited by the police within twenty-four hours.

also in some respect, have been their tribunals.

Formerly the mayors, or *achevins des villes*, sometimes the syndics, used to decide upon the disputes between workmen and their masters. Such disputes are now decided by the *conseils des prud'hommes*, first formed 18th March 1806. These judges composed in a fair proportion of manufacturers, *chef d'ateliers*, and workmen, form a popular court, of which it is difficult to over-estimate the utility.

At Lyons in 1828, out of 3,362 cases, all, except 22, were terminated at once, without expense, to the satisfaction of both parties ; and the jurisdiction of these councils, the best proof of their advantage, has been extended from affairs of 60 to affairs of 100 francs.

Owing, as many believe, to such regulations, there were not in France, until within a very few years, any of those disputes between the manufacturer and his workmen, against which we have abandoned all hopes of legislating.*

In a report of the committee appointed in 1819 to inquire into the exposition and the

* Any violent attempt at raising wages subjects the participator to one, two, or three months' imprisonment, the promoter to three, four, or five years' imprisonment.

state of manufactures, I find it especially asserted—" que la France a le bonheur de n'être point affligée par ces dissensions qui, dans d'autres contrées, divisent la classe ouvrière et les manufacturiers qui la font travailler."

And if the artisan be less satisfied now, it is not because the events that have since occurred, have lowered his fortunes, but because those events have increased his expectations, and given him the idea that his situation is to be raised by a greater share of power from the government, and a greater share of profit from the capitalist.

The same cause is at the bottom of the associations which are for procuring the "rights of man," and the heightening of wages—an equality, first founded on theories, and now daily establishing itself in practice.

EQUALITY.

CHAPTER VII.

Equality to be discovered in the preceding Chapters—King of England first gentleman in his kingdom—King of the French first citizen—The effect of the law does in France what the law did by compulsion in Florence—Social advantages of equality—Political results uncertain—Struggle between opinions and manners, between local government and centralization.

WHAT have we seen in France ? A popular literature that acknowledges no privileged order of critics ; a cheap press that addresses itself to all classes of readers ; a church establishment that embraces all sects of religion ; strange philosophies founded on the association of all capacities ; a soil partitioned amongst all ranks

of persons ; an upper class, whose exclusive pretensions are treated with ridicule ; a middle class possessing great political authority ; a working class almost independent, and demanding an increase of riches and power.—And are not these things the sign of that fact which I take as a title to this chapter ?

“ The King of England,” said M. Odillon Barrot, “ is the first gentleman in his kingdom ;—the King of the French, is the first citizen.” The one is the chief of a long aristocratic hierarchy, the other the ruler over a people who recognize no other than personal distinctions.

The principle of equality as understood, and as existing in France is this—A man *may* be everything ; but he has *no right* to be any thing ; he may be every thing *by ability*, he has no right to be any thing *by privilege*.

What is the question you ask of any one in England ?—*is he gentlemanlike ?*

What is the question you ask of any one in France ?—*A-t-il de l'esprit ?*

In these two questions lie the genius of two nations, which I do not compare, but contrast.

In one, the nobility descends into the arena where power is acquired by talent.

In the other, talent, as the consequence of its power, mounts into the nobility.

Does any one want to know what is republican in the institutions of the French?

That which the law did by compulsion in the republican days of republican Florence, is the simple effect of the law in the intelligent days of monarchical France.

The Capponis were enrolled on the books of the plebeians, and the Fitz-James's have descended into the Chamber of Deputies.

“Tous les hommes naissent égaux et libres ; aucun d'eux n'a plus de droit que les autres de faire usage de ses facultés naturelles ou acquises ; ce droit commun à tous n'a d'autre limite que la conscience même de celui qui l'exerce, laquelle lui interdit d'en faire usage au détriment de ses semblables.”

These were the words of Mirabeau in proposing that famous declaration “of the Rights of Man,” with which the discussions of the National Assembly opened, and which the existing government has ultimately adopted.

For the pleasures of society, and by society I mean every relation of social intercourse, there is certainly no comparison between the effects of those feelings which, in France, bring to the same table every variety of character and

station, and the effects of those opposite feelings which, in England, draw a barrier as fearful as the Rubicon between Mr. Roberts and Mr. Rogers, who are both wholesale or retail dealers in mutton suet.

There is a fretfulness about every man's position with us, which is positively frightful. He is never easy, for there is always some little line of demarcation between himself and his neighbour, which he toils to pass over. The aristocracy descends through every link, from the golden to the copper of the country. The Duke of Devonshire is not more exclusive than the Duke's poulterer. Society is a long series of little uprising ridges, which, from the first to the last, offer no valley of repose. Wherever you take your stand, you are looked down upon by those above you, and reviled and pelted by those below you. Every creature you see is a farthing Sisyphus, pushing his little stone up some Liliputian molecule. This is our world !

The social advantages, then, that result from equality, are great ; the political consequences that may arise from it are more uncertain.

For there is this to be said of the French : a marked difference exists between the ideas and the habits of that people.

The ideas date from the revolution of 1789, the habits develop a longer history.

The ideas prevent the grand seigneur from assuming a superiority over the stockbroker. The habits have carried down to the stockbroker all the luxuries and some of the airs of the Grand Seigneur.

Who has the best box and the prettiest dancers at the opera? Who has the best horses at the race course? Who is "the fashionable," the *petit marquis* of the epoch?

That young 'agent-de-change,' whose outspread coat-skirts obscure the fire at the club in the Rue de Grammont, dressed with a simple pretension, and talking, with a doctrinal air, of the merits of lobster soup, and ministerial stability.

The Hotel de Montmorency has not been destroyed but let out in apartments, and you see the traces of the ancient régime in modern society, as you find on modern furniture those curious and beautiful old damasks which decorated our grandfather's apartments.

The struggle then, is, and has been since the directorship of Barras between new opinions and old manners.

Equality is in itself neither republican, as some people believe, nor anti-republican as

others suppose. It is republican among the poor, anti-republican among the rich; the first it makes jealous of power,—the second it makes anxious for place.

The opinions that agitate one body would establish a democracy—the desires that prevail among the other would re-establish a court. What reigns is a system of compromise. There is no hereditary House of Lords, and there is a very unpopular law of election. The lower classes are excluded from the government because the middle have not left an upper. Nor is this all; where there is no aristocracy to ease the government of part of its affairs, there must either be an active and intelligent democracy ruling in every village, or a powerful administration concentrated in the executive authority. As the government at one time stripped the people of power, so the people have lately been acquiring some rights from the government. But still there is a conflict here—not, as with us, between the middle orders, who begin to proclaim equality, and the upper who would maintain privileges; but between the community who demand greater local authority, and the minister who contends for preserving centralization.

BOOK VI.

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

“ The very best administration must encounter a great deal of opposition, and the worst will find more support than it deserves.”—*Thoughts on French Revolution*—Burke.

CENTRALIZATION.

CHAPTER VIII.

La Révolution a désossé la France—Idea of the Convention—of Bonaparte—Circumstances of France and England in respect to centralization—Late changes in system in France—Existing administration.

EVERY thing in France is small ; France itself is great.

Individual existence in this country is insignificant ; for where there are no prejudices of birth, no great fortunes, no established and fixed positions, as it were, one man is the centre of but a small circle of considerations. Nor are there any bodies, so formed and organized, as to interpose between the great masses of the

community, and the executive power of the state. The first revolution, to use an expression attributed to M. de Talleyrand, *unboned France*. The great corporations, to which I have alluded, and so also the ancient provincial divisions and administrations, every institution, in short, which, having local power, placed any check upon, or created any barrier against central power, was swept away.

All that law could alter—habits and manners are not within its immediate jurisdiction—it did destroy and alter in a moment. Nor was the terrible Triumvirate, over whose doors were written :—“liberty, indivisibility, and death,” without a great idea, an idea always difficult to realize, difficult then; but pressed upon their attention by foreign war, domestic discord, and that turbulent and sanguinary spirit which it was at once their object to nourish and controul. “Liberty to all, tyranny over all,” was in fact their motto—words not so incompatible as we may suppose; for they simply determine that in proportion to the check which the people have on the government, should be the power which the government has over the people.

What the men of those times wished, was to make the authority which they said should

represent the masses, strong ; the citizens over whom that authority extended, equal.

An enemy's bayonets gleamed on their frontier, a hostile aristocracy lurked in their capital, jealous rivalries agitated their provinces. To drive back that enemy, to put down that aristocracy, to tranquillize those jealousies one thing was wanted—a system of centralization. Who shall blame them for adopting it ?

Bonaparte arrived with a genius just proper to consolidate and regulate what his predecessors in the revolution had conceived ; but into their plans he carried a new idea.

He looked at things with the eye of a great captain.

He saw less perhaps the necessity of making the nation, over which he was to rule powerful, than that of giving a quick and rapid impulsion to its power. What he wished was to have a government that vibrated at his touch, whose whole force he was able to combine instantaneously, and to drive in one direction. Hence the civil and military system of the empire, intended to unite so many radii round a common centre, by the action of

which they were all to be imperatively controlled.*

There have been various doctrines propounded, of late years, amongst ourselves, as to the excellencies or evils of that system of unity under which French affairs are administered, and many have considered that we have something to learn, in this respect, from our neighbours, while others have thought that they had rather much to imitate and adopt from us. In any consideration we give this subject, let us carefully separate the circumstances of the two countries to which we would apply the same principles.

I have already spoken of the differences naturally created by a great landed gentry, who, from their property and station take the place of the government, as it were, and are frequently able to discharge its duties ; besides, heavy hands have weighed on England. The dominion of the Tudors coming at a time

* The principle of centralization, though established on very different grounds, pervades, to a certain extent, our own government, though this fact is generally overlooked. A committee of the House of Commons is but a bad tribunal to decide upon the propriety of provincial improvement. Here, however, the supreme authority is the popular assembly ; in France it is the executive power.

when, enfeebled by her civil dissensions, she was plastic to every impression, destroyed many of the differences then remaining of her ancient divisions. And now, the multiplication of roads, of canals, the facility and the expedition of conveyances, have so mingled and mixed up the various provinces together, that a slight accent is all that continues to distinguish their inhabitants one from another. England, moreover, defended by her insular position and her maritime superiority, has no occasion, in the administration of her civil government, to consider what may be required as a security from foreign aggression. France, on the contrary, is a continental empire, more likely than any other, from its situation, and the character of its inhabitants, to be called to arms, and demanding, therefore, even in the administration which is to govern it in peace an attention to the administration which might be required in the event of war ; moreover, it is impossible for the most casual observer who visits them not to be struck by the motley character of those various races now collected under one sway, and held together by the Northern Ocean, the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, and the Rhine. The Briton speaks of France and the French as distinguished from himself, and tells you

that a Frenchman has bought this chateau, or lives at that place. In a great part of France, French is not the language spoken by the people ; the west, since the revolution of 1830, may be looked upon as a hostile and subdued country. Ruled by its priests and its women, served by its chivalric nobility and its martial peasantry, superstitious, adventurous, determined, difficult to be subdued,—the institutions which made it independent would render it hostile and dangerous. To keep the fanatic south, the irreligious north, the republican east, and the royalist west together and quiet, no doubt a strong government, quick in its action, and determined in its purpose, is necessary, and no wise Frenchman would desire a perfection in the laws of a country that would tend to the disorganization and dissolution of the state.

Looking, then, at the equality among the French people, which prevents the local government of an aristocracy—at the position and divisions of France, which render dangerous the uncontrolled local government of a democracy—centralization if an evil, is almost an evil of necessity, and cannot be abandoned, though, perhaps, it may yet be capable of further modification. Already, as I have said many

changes have taken place since the destruction of the empire, and more especially, since the revolution of July, and over these changes a spirit of wisdom and moderation has prevailed. To maintain the unity of the state, to stimulate the energies of the provinces, and to set bounds to the authority of the executive government seem to be the triple object under which these alterations ought to have been undertaken, and have been accomplished.

Here the general councils have been made elective, the judges immoveable. There, the formation of a local force, on popular principles, has placed a check upon the unlimited power of the regular soldiery.

But as the best key to this subject I will give a rapid sketch of the civil and military administration of the country.

CIVIL ADMINISTRATION.

CHAPTER IX.

Minister of Finance and system of Taxation—Minister of Justice and Judicial system.—Minister of Police, and the origin, effect and attributes of that office—Minister of Commerce, Commercings Chambers, etc.—Minister of instruction, system of education, etc.—Minister of the Interior, and departmental and government divisions.

FINANCE.

IN the Minister of Finance centres the administration of the public revenue, the national debt, and the mint.

He superintends the assessment and collection of taxes, direct and indirect; and as the

centre to whom all the other ministries address their accounts seems the most proper to mention first.

It is after having received the estimates of the different administrations, that this minister determines how much will be requisite for the service of the coming year, and proposes in advance a budget accordingly.

The budget of the state fixed, the object is to secure its payment: and in order to understand how this is done, it is necessary to know from what sources the public revenue proceeds.

The most important of these are the direct and indirect taxes. The direct taxes are:

1. The house and land tax in proportion to the clear annual income.
2. The poll tax, extending to all but the very poor, and amounting to the value of three days' labour.
3. The door and window tax.
4. The licences to trade.*

From the nature of these taxes it is necessary, first, to provide for their distribution, and secondly, for their perception.

* The licences must be paid for when issued, except in some particular cases.

In respect to the distribution, the minister proposes to the chamber in his budget the contingent of each department for land tax, poll tax and window tax. The councils of the departments fix the proportion to be paid by their arrondissements, and the councils of the arrondissements the proportion to be paid by their communes.*

A list of tax-payers is drawn up every three years, stating the names of each individual, and the nature, and the amount of the taxes to which he is liable.

This list, annually supervised, is signed by the prefect every year, on or before the 12th of January, and then becomes available. The direct taxes are made payable by twelfths, and the tax-payer can be called upon the first of every month for the taxes of the months previous.†

Such taxes are collected by collectors named in every department by the minister of finance out of a list presented by the prefect‡ and every

* The prefect fixes the house tax in the departments, and the sub-prefect in the arrondissements.

† Those who have not paid their twelfth on the first of the month are liable to proceedings, which consist 1—Of a notice.—2. Summons.—3. Seizures.—4. Sale.

‡ They must, however, be consented to by the receivers, who are responsible for them.

tenth day, in large towns at shorter periods, they must pay the sums levied to authorities appointed for that purpose. These authorities are stationed in every *arrondissement*, under the title of receivers of *arrondissement*, and are all subordinate to the receiver-general of the department, who is responsible for their integrity.*

The indirect taxes are :

1. On drink (i. e. wine, beer, and spirituous liquors.)

2. Produce of the sale of the monopolies of gunpowder and tobacco.†

3. Tenth of all the commercial octrois.

4. Miscellaneous.

Public carriages.

Cards.

Salt at the pits, and in the country.

On stamps guaranteeing the quality of articles fabricated in gold and silver.

On passage of bridges, &c.

* A commune which has a revenue of 20,000 frs. has a receiver also.

† The persons allowed to sell these articles, take them from the government at a certain price, and are allowed as their remuneration, to sell them at another.

5. Registration stamps.*

6. Post and lottery.†

The machinery of receipts is the same as for the direct taxes.

Directors of direct and indirect taxes are appointed to superintend the method of perception, and functionaries called, "inspectors general," who, travelling over the country, may take any district by surprise, keep a watchful and constant controul over the accounts.

But the finance ministry is not only charged with the collection of the public revenue, it is also charged with the payment of the public expences. The machinery it employs is therefore of a double nature.

By the side of the 'receiver general' of the department, there is a paymaster for the department also. The receivers are in fact the government *bankers*, and the paymasters the government *agents*.

The receiver general, for instance, has so much in hand, on account of the treasury

* The rest of the receipts is composed of the revenues of public lands, of falls of timber, produce of the contract from gaming houses, profits from coinage, &c.

† Lottery is now abolished.

in his department. The treasury issues a mandate, or draws a draft, in favour of the paymaster, to be applied to a particular use; the paymaster receives the money and executes the commission.

But as the speedy transition of the funds, from the public debtor to the public creditor, is the great object of the government, a board is established, called the 'bureau de fonds,' for this special purpose. Every ten days the accounts of the receivers general are sent to this board, which thus knowing the funds that the state has to dispose of, in each part of the country, transmits a daily account thereof to the ministry, according to which, the public payments are regulated.*

The different state establishments in each of the eighty-six departments, therefore, whether military, clerical, or judicial, are defrayed, as far as possible, by the receipts of that part of the country in which they are situated.†

The speedy collection, secure deposit, and

* The minister, therefore, can see at a glance, what funds are disposeable in every part of the empire.

† But, as this cannot always take place, a transfer of revenue is sometimes necessary; and this transfer is calculated to cost annually 2,900,000 frs.

rapid payment of the public money, being thus provided for, the only remaining thing to desire, is the clearness and correctness of the accounts through which these different movements of cash are to be traced.

The system of accounts in France, to which our attention was first called by Sir H. Parnell, has since that time considerably occupied the attention of parliament; and Dr. Bowring, commissioned for that purpose, has published reports that might be more clear and less voluminous perhaps, but which are still highly interesting and creditable to their author.

The merit of the French accounts is in their system; a system which comprises the utmost detail on the one hand, and the utmost centralisation on the other.

To effect this—the first thing necessary is that all accounts, based on a recapitulation of the most minute particulars, should be kept by all parties in certain similar and specified forms, and ultimately brought under one well devised central.

The persons who receive for the receivers, the receivers, and the receivers general themselves, must all then maintain a general journal and ledger, in which every transaction is first

entered, as it takes place, and afterwards copied out in an organized shape under leading heads. The copies of these journals and ledgers, together with the statement for which they furnish the materials, are transmitted at short intervals to the ministry of finance, as are the receipts and vouchers of the paymasters. In that office they are entered, and centralised in the books of the cashier general, who is at the head of the receivers general, and in the books of the paymaster general, who is at the head of the paymasters.

Thus, every fact, whether of receipt or payment, is a matter of daily record and of arranged report to the central financial authorities; while the cashier's and general paymaster's accounts are again centralised by being brought before a board; called the '*comptabilité générale*!' which compares every statement and looks into every account.

The *Cour des comptes*,* as a judicial board, acts finally as a check upon the '*comptabilité*

* This court is composed of a first president and of three presidents of chambers, of eighteen master counsellors, and eighty referee counsellors, of a king's advocate and a chief clerk; and was first organised during the empire, in September 1807.

générale,' which is purely a financial board ; and as the one sees whether the different trans-

For its ordinary business, the court is divided into three chambers, each composed of a president and six master councillors.

The first, or chief president, presides over the chambers united, or when he pleases, over any particular chamber. He distributes the accounts to the referees, and indicates the chamber to which they are to make their report. He has, in short, the general controul of his court and the three chambers. In his absence his place is supplied by the senior president of the other chambers.

The presidents have the direction of the business of their respective chambers ; and distribute to the master councillors who form them, the affairs or the accounts of which they are to report.

The referee councillors are charged with the verification of the accounts submitted to them, and may be said to fulfil the duty of auditors as well as accountants.

The king's advocate takes care that the public officers and receivers transmit their accounts within the period prescribed by law. He also sees that the chambers hold their sittings regularly, and that the referees do their duty. It is to him that the prefects address the public accounts of their departments when there are any disputes concerning them. The correspondence with the ministers for the execution of the decrees or orders of the court, is also entrusted to him.

The chief clerk receives the accounts and vouchers from the public officers, and has the charge of all papers.

actions are rightly stated, so the other determines whether they formally and legally took place.

It is after this various superintendence that the public accounts come back at last, collected into the hands of the minister, by whom they were originally proposed, and who is charged with their defence.

It is impossible, in so short a space, to do more than give this general outline*, which will, however, suffice to show the main parts of that machinery by which the cash concerns of a mighty state are conducted with a precision and regularity that is rare in the affairs of a private commercial establishment.

It now only remains to notice the local expenses.

These are in part defrayed by a portion of a general tax, proposed by the minister in his budget, and called centimes additionnels†, a certain amount of which, set apart for such

* I have endeavoured to disembarass this statement as much as possible, from all minor details.

† The centimes additionnels consist of 36 cents. on the land tax ; 36 on the personal and furniture tax ; 16 on the house and windows ; 4 on the patents.

charges, is paid by the receivers to the paymasters who defray them. What remains is met by the budgets of the departments, of the towns of chef-lieu, and of the communes.

The budgets of the departments have for receipts the centimes additionnelles, which they vote as supplementary to those, I have already mentioned, as voted for their use by the chambers.

Their expenses are those of the prefecture, central houses of detention, royal departmental roads, etc.

The towns of chef-lieu have the same species of receipt and expense as the communes, and it is to the budget of the latter that we ought especially to look for local expenses.

These budgets, which must be approved by the sub-prefect, if the commune has only 100 francs ordinary revenue; by the prefect, if from 100 to 100,000 francs; and by a royal ordinance, if above that sum, are all transmitted to the minister of finance, who has thus before him the whole expenses, local as well as general, of the kingdom.

The revenues of the communes are ordinary and extraordinary. The ordinary revenues are : five additional centimes on each individual, claims

on licences, fines for various misdemeanours, fines for non-service in the national guard, funds, customs, right of location in halles, fairs, markets, ports, walks, etc., fees for administration acts, income from woods, contributions to the service of the highways.

The extraordinary revenues are: credit balance of last account, interest of funds invested in the treasury, sale of moveables, immoveables or funds, legacies and donations, price of extraordinary cutting of forests, rates to supply deficiency of ordinary revenues, loans and accidental receipts.

The disbursements of a commune are also ordinary and extraordinary. The ordinary disbursements are expenses of local administration receivers, collectors, payeurs, etc. expenses of communal property, national guard and barracks, poor laws, public instruction, religion, public festivals and unforeseen expenses. The extraordinary disbursements are unusual expenses of administration, purchase of property, heavy repairs etc. extraordinary expenses of national guards, extraordinary expenses of public establishments, public instruction or religion, payment of arrears, law expenses, accidental expenses, etc.

The hospitals and bureaux de bienfaisance, as far as they have funds of their own, form a separate budget.

The whole receipts and expenses 1832, were as follows :

	RECEIPTS.	EXPENSES.
	frs.	frs.
General budget, in which are included the centimes additional, voted by the departments	1,064,031,269	1,106,618,270
Budget of communes . .	161,786,000	147,574,775
Towns of chef-lieu . . .	69,362,870	68,132,000
Hospitals and houses of reception, either from gifts, legacies, or the like, and produce of the work of persons employed .	51,222,063	48,842,097
Bureaux de bienfaisance* do	10,315,746	8,956,036
Total	1,356,717,975	1,380,123,178

JUSTICE.

To the Minister of Justice is intrusted the organisation and surveillance of the whole judiciary system.†

* Bureaux of charity.

† The transmittal of all orders and instructions to the

The judicial system in France, much calumniated because little understood, is certainly not so defective as we are apt to consider it, and contains a mixture of diffused and centralised power well worthy of attention.

There is the authority that pursues and the authority that judges: we will consider each. The authority that pursues, is called "the public

royal courts, and other tribunals for the execution of the laws and regulations promulgated.

For instance, the correspondence with the advocates-general and advocates of the king on all matters committed to the surveillance of the minister.

The duty of reporting to the king on matters of legislation, on the administration of justice, on the conflicts between the civil and judicial authorities, regarding naturalization, marriage, change of name, etc., as well as on matters regarding pardons, commutations of punishments, etc.

The decisions of the courts royal, which pronounce or confirm the censure or reprimand of a magistrate, cannot be put in execution unless they have been approved by the keeper of the seals, who has the power to order into his presence the members of the courts and tribunals, as well as of their officers, to explain all the charges which may be imputed to them.

The measures of discipline and regulation adopted by the courts and tribunals must also be submitted for his approbation, and without it can have no effect.

ministry," (*le ministère public*) and is a great social power charged with the preservation of order and tranquillity, and the punishment of those by whom the laws, in respect to these blessings, are infringed.

This power is, in fact, a personification of the community it protects. An individual is injured—the public ministry pursues the criminal, not for the sake of the individual, but for the sake of the public of which he forms a part; and the prosecution of course takes place at the public expense.*

The public ministry though one, in its object, is composed of a variety of separate and divergent authorities. The principal of these are the *procureurs-généraux* and the *procureurs-du-roi*.

There are in France, twenty-seven courts royal and three hundred and sixty-five tribunals of the first instance: at the *chef-lieu*† of each

* There may, however, be two parts of the same case, one public and one private. For instance, an individual has been robbed of £200—the public ministry prosecutes the robber for the crime—the person robbed prosecutes him to recover the money. Here the ministry has nothing to do with the money—the person robbed nothing to do with the crime.

† Capital

of these courts royal there is a procureur-général and at the chef-lieu of each department, a procureur-du-roi.

All the procureurs-du-roi within the jurisdiction of a court royal, are under the control of the procureur-général, follow his directions, and act in his name.

The different procureurs-généraux are altogether independent of each other, and there would be no common bond between them but for the establishment in the centre of France of a minister of justice.

This minister, however, has not in point of form, the power of forcing the procureurs-généraux to act as he wishes.

Still, he has in reality this power, since he can deprive them of their office if they act contrary to his wishes.

So far the whole machinery of the prosecution is calculated for energy and force, and might be terrible as an instrument of despotism, if not placed under some efficient control.

This control over the power that pursues, exists in the power that judges.

The first is centralized round the executive authority, the second has a dispersed and independent existence.

The procureur-du-roi, who looks up to the procureur-général; the procureur-général, who looks up to the minister of justice, may be considered one and the same person. But the procureur-du-roi, removeable at pleasure, can only bring the culprit before a magistrate who is immoveable, who has no orders to receive, either from the procureur-du-roi, or from the procureur-général, or from the minister of justice, and this humble and simple magistrate can at once disarm all the well organised and terrible force of the public ministry.

The judicial powers are thus arranged: as every arrondissement has a procureur-du-roi, so every arrondissement has one juge d'instruction* and two assistant judges.

In the same manner, as every division has a procureur-général, it has also a court royal, and in proportion to the facility and the power given to the executive authority for prosecuting the culprit, is the difficulty laid in the way of his being rashly and improperly condemned. The course of procedure is as follows: John Niles

* The number varies according to the importance of the place, and the business there is to do; but there must be three at least.

infringes the law—a police agent, or the party aggrieved, applies to a commissary of police, a chief of gendarmerie, a mayor, or a justice* of peace, or it may be to the procureur-du-roi.

The procureur sends a minute of what has been stated to the juge d'instruction; a summons to appear, or an order to be brought before the bench is issued against the accused. Here the juge d'instruction questions, examines, releases or commits him;† for without a warrant, no citizen can be confined more than twenty-four hours. When the juge d'instruction considers there is good ground for a prosecution, he endeavours to find clear proofs of the supposed crime, and this stage of the proceedings is peculiarly liable to abuse. The juge d'instruction, with the natural bias of a lawyer, is too apt to feel a pride in placing the prisoner's guilt in the clearest light before the tribunal by which he is to be tried. He is, therefore, far more anxious to find precise proofs of the culpability of the accused than fearful to deprive him of liberty if he should be innocent.

* The mayor is only where there is no commissaire of police.

† The great fault of this proceeding is that it is private.

When at last, however, he thinks his case as clear as it can be made, the prisoner is brought before the chamber of council—i. e. before three judges, of whom the juge d'instruction of the arrondissement is one. This court decides whether there is ground for proceeding with the cause or not. If the three judges decide in the negative, the prisoner is released; but he may perhaps have previously endured eight or nine months' imprisonment without guilt. There is, however, a check on this abuse. Every month the juge d'instruction is obliged to state to his two assistants why he does not try the prisoners, and they can either admit or overrule his reason. Sometimes this is a mere form, since the three judges may be very good friends, and confide in each other. But if a prisoner is urgent for a quick trial, and the public shew interest in the matter, the judges apply to the case, and there is seldom avoidable delay. This part of the criminal law, however, requires reform—abuses may, and do, arise.

The accused has thus had two opportunities of being released: one by the juge d'instruction, at his first examination, the other by the chamber of council. He has one more. The

chamber of accusation, composed of so many members of the *cour royale*,* an independent, immoveable court, may still declare that there is no cause for proceeding to judgment. But should the three courts concur in finding the prisoner guilty, he is then tried at the assizes. A member of the *cour royale* presides. A jury of thirty-six persons is chosen by ballot, from tax-payers to the amount of 200 francs, to which physicians, barristers, etc. have a right, on account of their profession merely, to belong. Before trial the prisoner and the public accuser each strike off nine. The president is assisted by two fellow members of the *cour royale*, who weigh with him the due punishment of the offender, and any mistakes that may have arisen in the procedure. The *procureur-général* opens the trial, states the grounds of prosecution, names the witnesses, etc. The *avocat-général* then appeals to the jury to do justice to the outraged community. After

* A *cour royale* must be composed of at least twenty-four councillors, and is divided into different chambers—one at least for civil causes, as I shall mention presently, one of correctional police, and one chamber of accusation.

which the president interrogates the prisoner—too often* with an evident desire to entrap, and convict him. Questions so put, justify the insolence of the accuser, who sometimes answers impatiently and disrespectfully : thus taking from justice much of the awe, which, when gravely and impartially administered, it must inspire.

The president next examines the witnesses. The prisoner and his counsel have the great advantage of cross-examining them, of rebutting or explaining the facts which they depose ; and, consequently, of dissipating every unfavorable impression at the very moment it arises ; but this advantage is more than counter-balanced by the supposition on which the

* The interrogation of the prisoner too often produces an unjust or a ridiculous effect. If the president is an able man, and the accused not so, the latter is too often self-convicted at the very outset of the trial ; and, if on the contrary, as sometimes is the case in political trials, the prisoner has more ability than his interrogator, he perplexes, confounds, crushes, degrades him, and robs of all dignity the prosecution by which society vindicates its rights.

It would surely be more just, more reasonable, to hear the evidence against the prisoner, and let him rebut it as well as he could, and omit the interrogations altogether. Girod de l'Aine never questions the accused.

whole trial proceeds, viz: that the prisoner is guilty until he is found innocent—and not, as with us, innocent until he has been proved guilty. After the witnesses have given their evidence, the *avocat-général* sums up the facts against the accused, and endeavours to convince the reason and influence the passions of the jury. The prisoner's counsel then rises, and places his view of the evidence before them. The prisoner himself may now speak in his own defence, and is always allowed to speak last. The president should next sum up, with an impartiality more desirable than common, the facts of the case. The jury then declare the prisoner guilty or not guilty. This is the extent of their office. The court determines the punishment according to law on the demand of the *avocat-général*.

I may mention that if the prisoner cannot pay a pleader, the president is obliged to appoint one,—who receives 10 francs if his client is condemned, and something more if he is acquitted.*

* It is a very common practice with the counsel thus assigned to give their fee to the poor client. This is a slight instance of good feeling among the French *avocats*, who are often men of great moral courage and worth.

Should the president assign the first pleader in the court, common usage admits no demur.*

Those infringements of the law which come under the term '*délits*' (or 'offences') in the French code—I have been speaking of crimes: are punished in a different and more summary way. The court of arrondissement, in which they occurred, deciding upon them at once, but subject to an appeal to the cour royale;—a justice of peace or a tribunal of police can punish petty offences.†

The courts which serve for the criminal are also used for the civil law. The justice of peace decides questions of trifling amount; the court of sessions, consisting of the juge d'instruction and his two colleagues, decides finally all cases under 1000 francs, to check the spirit of litigation that would prolong trials of little consequence. The court royal, a court

* This never occurs in Paris, where the young pleaders gladly exercise their eloquence for the poor; but it does happen, not unfrequently, in the departments.

The length of the trial, and the support of witnesses, make criminal proceedings very expensive in France. It would seem just for the public to pay the expense of the innocent.

† '*Délits*' (or 'offences') of the press are an exception; these are tried by a jury, or by the new law, if liable to be called '*attentats*' (treason) by the chamber of peers.

of appeal, to which may be carried all cases of more than 1000 francs, is final. But the minister of justice may object to any decision that seems to him inconsistent with the written statute law.

Formerly the parliaments were independent of each other ; each decided according to its own precedents and views. Their decisions therefore not unfrequently clashed ; the law in different provinces was not the same. To remedy this abuse, the King, from time to time, declared in council that such and such a constitution of the law was the only true one. Of course this threw the law into the hands of the King and council.

To secure the advantages without the defects of this system, was the origin of the court of cassation. If a decision in any civil or criminal case appears to the minister of justice contrary to law, he complains of it to the court of cassation. If this court declares that the *cour royale* has decided illegally, the whole case is referred to another tribunal. If the jury in a criminal, or the court in a civil cause decide contrary to the opinion of the court of cassation, that court assembles all its members, and reconsiders the case. Its first decision might be formed by half. If the full

court of cassation confirms the first decree, the cause is carried before another court, and if this court decides as the two others, the cause is finished; but the minister is bound to lay before the chamber in the next session a law to clear up the doubtful point. In civil cases the aggrieved individual prefers his complaint against the aggressor, except in the case of minors, idiots, persons absent, etc. ; for then the minister of justice is bound to speak in favor of the plaintiff after his advocate has spoken. In all other cases, the *avocat-général* has a right, if he pleases, to state his opinion to the court ; he frequently uses this privilege, but is not obliged to do so.*

Commerce has its separate tribunals, which,

* There is also at Paris a court, consisting of a *juge d'instruction* and assistant, for the dispatch of affairs. It sits constantly in the Palace of Justice, and decides whether or no the person summoned before it ought to be committed or not. The case is then referred to another *juge d'instruction*.

I may observe that the prefect of police, an office existing only in Paris, has a right of search in private dwellings, and can put any one under confinement for twenty-four hours. He cannot, however, imprison any one for a longer time without the authority of a *juge d'instruction*.

however, are still under the ministry and surveillance of the minister of justice. These tribunals exist in those arrondissements that require them.*

They are composed of a presiding judge, of judges and supernumerary judges, all chosen among the merchants the most respectable, and named at a meeting of merchants. The King ratifies the nomination.

The presiding judge must be forty years of age, and is chosen from the most ancient judges. The other judges must be thirty years of age, and have been engaged in commerce at least five years.

The president and the judges remain but two years in office, and can only be re-elected after the interval of a year.

Their functions are honorary.†

Advocates are not allowed to plead before this tribunal, but any other person can plead if authorised. Custom has allowed certain persons to plead who are authorised and admitted by the tribunal, under the title of *agréé*,

* In those arrondissements where there are no tribunals of commerce, the civil tribunals are applied to instead.

† A clerk and attendant officer, named by the government, are attached to each tribunal.

an individual as the name would imply, whose duty it is to bring the disputing parties to an amicable settlement or agreement.

The tribunals of commerce take cognizance of—first, all disputes relative to engagements and transactions between merchants and bankers, and between all personal disputes into which commerce enters. Secondly, all disputes between commercial agents and their principals; and thirdly, all disputes that concern bankruptcy.

The decisions of this court are final in cases not exceeding 1000 francs, (or £40) and in other mercantile cases, where the parties beforehand forego their right of appeal; otherwise the appeals from the tribunal of commerce are carried to the court royal of their districts.

Such is the French judicial system, liable to abuses, as all institutions are, and more essentially subject to those abuses which are not abuses of the law, but against the law, resulting from the mind and manners of the people by whom and for whom it is exercised.

These are principally the detention of criminals on inadequate proofs, (though the frequency of this is rather exaggerated) and the bias too frequently seen in the mind of the judge in favor of that power to which he owes his authority.

A great contempt for personal liberty, and a strong leaning towards the executive government result necessarily from the history and habits of the French ; and to that history and those habits the present generation must at all events be subject.

But a time, I hope, will come when a new generation educated in new ideas will put this machinery in motion with a different spirit.

The following remarks may not be without interest.

The expenses of justice amount to about 3,632,000frs.* distributed amongst :

1. Persons brought before the correctional tribunal	35,486frs.
2. Brought before the Cours d'Assises.	7,315 „
3. Liberated by the chambers of conseil.	10,044 „
4. By the chambers of accusation.	779 „
Total.	53,620frs.

Giving an expense of about 56frs. 55 cents. by individual.

In 1833, the number of persons arrested and dismissed without trial by the chambers of

* The charge is 3,300,000frs.; but of this a certain sum is subject to recovery.

conseil, endured a captivity of 7,910 months; by the chamber of accusation, 1,670 months.

Again the persons judged by the correctional tribunals were condemned to 34,490 months imprisonment.

The persons judged by the courts of assizes, 26,350 months. Total 70,420 months, i. e. 5,869 years.

From this statement, we see the number of persons dismissed without trial, and the time of their imprisonment; the number of persons brought up to trial, and the time of their condemnation; and lastly by comparing the number of individuals in prison with the number of months of their imprisonment, and allowing an expense of about 27frs. 10 sous* to each individual, and adding that to the 56frs. 55c. already mentioned, we shall make the sum of

56frs. 55c. }	89frs. 5c.†	as the average cost of every person arrested.
27frs 10c. }		

* See reports of the minister of justice and budget.

† This is higher than the estimate allowed, viz : 200frs. for each individual—but I add to this the presumed cost of maintaining the buildings of administration, &c.

POLICE.

As a fitting instrument of the public ministry, which pursues the crime, is the ministry of police which watches and apprehends the criminal.

At the head of this ministry is the minister of police,* who has in the department of the Seine an active agent in the prefect of police. And, indeed, as it is chiefly in Paris that the business of minister of police lies, the officer, subordinate to him in the capital, is an important personage, and almost a minister himself.

Under his inspection are placed all the prisons in the department of the Seine, all the gambling establishments, all the houses licensed for prostitution. He sees that peace is preserved at the markets, and in places of public worship—attending in every thing to the cleanliness and good order of the city.

He can order searches in private houses, arrest, in urgent cases, and take any means he may think proper to disperse or prevent

* The functions of minister of police are for the moment absorbed in the department of the minister of the interior ; still they are to be considered as attached to a separate department.

numerous and tumultuous meetings, and at once seize, and commit all persons taken *en flagrant délit*, (in the fact.)

The officers under him, are :

Les commissaires de police. (Commissaries of police.)

Les officiers de paix. (Peace officers.)

Les commissaires de police de la Bourse. (Commissaries of police attached to the exchange.)

Les commissaires de la petite voirée.

Les commissaires et inspecteurs des halles et marchés. (Commissaries and inspectors of the market halls and public markets.)

Les inspecteurs des ports. (Inspectors of harbours.)

In the provinces, except under peculiar circumstances, such as that of La Vendée, the police rarely acts, save in its subordinate capacities ; but in all cases the prefects of the departments execute in their respective jurisdictions the duties that would be required from a *prefet de police* ; and the provincial agents of this ministry are placed under them.

The whole service centralizes itself in Paris in two bureaux—the one relating to the action of the police, and the other to its administration.

The duties of the minister too, are of a double nature :

Those relating to the criminal police.

Those relating to the political police.

As the head of the criminal police, the *gendarmérie*,* the *pompriers*, and that class of persons which would answer to our description of Bow Street runners, are at his orders : as the head of the political police, he directs and corresponds with an army of spies, taken from every class of society and to be encountered in almost every scene of life. The system of passports over which he presides affords to his functions, where exercised for the preservation of property, a peculiar efficiency, which though obtained at the expense of personal liberty, the citizen, long accustomed to it, is willing to purchase at that price. But his most despotic and as it is called important employment is that of watching over the safety of the state ; —which is in fact prying into the conduct of every individual, who can be supposed hostile to the administration in power.

Strange to say, this practice, abominable

* This force, centralized in the ministry I am describing, follows the division of other parts of the French administration ; every *arrondissement* has its troop—every *chef-lieu* its colonel.

and useless as it is, has been preserved through a long series of years, and under almost every species of government without interruption. Introduced into France by Louis XI, and resorted to by the Medici against the protestants, it was soon after systematized by Richelieu, and pursued with equal ardour by the timid and crafty character of his Italian successor.

Louis XIV, Louis XV, and even Louis XVI, continued it, and indeed, one of the first demands of the National assembly was the abolition of a bureau* called especially *bureau du roi*, and which was charged with the shameful duty of opening private correspondence.

The government of the Convention, through the system of espionage was never perhaps more infamously practised than by itself, disavowed the principle of that violation of social confidence, as it did indeed the principle of all its tyrannies. But the unblushing Direc-

* A curious set of documents, found in the Bastille in 1789, were afterwards published, and among other curious facts, it was discovered that in one year, and in Paris alone, two hundred priests had been caught *flagrante delicto*.

tory avowed and justified it, and Bonaparte multiplied its dignities and duties in a manner almost ludicrous. Then came the Restoration keeping the country in a perpetual state of alarm by plots supposed, sought after, and undiscovered : and now, the new government is almost as active as its predecessors, in the pursuit of every paltry intrigue ; and yet, did all the agents of Napoleon discover the conspiracy of Mallet ? Did all the agents of Monsieur de Polignac breathe a warning whisper of the revolution of July ? and here again, under the government of Louis-Philippe, Don Carlos quietly traverses his kingdom, and an Italian adventurer almost succeeds in blowing up his family and his court ; and even M. Thiers—the clever, active, indefatigable M. Thiers—is just as wise as the rest of the world about the matter.

INSTRUCTION.

As the system of public prosecution is conducted under the title of ‘*ministère public*,’ so the system of instruction, which in France is also an affair of the state, is conducted in the name of ‘*the university*’—the minister of

instruction* being appointed the grand-master thereof.

‘The university,’ to adopt this expression, is charged exclusively with the care of teaching ; and no school of any description can be carried on without its express authorization.† Under the minister of instruction then, there is the ‘ conseil royal de l’instruction publique,’‡ composed of six members, whose duty it is to superintend every thing relative to the expenses required by the public establishments, as well as the books to be used and the course of education to be followed therein.

Such being the central board of administration, France is divided into divisions of instruction called ‘ *académies*,’ (academies) which are situated in the chefs-lieu of the different courts

* The minister of instruction is also minister of religion ; but there remains little for me to say upon that subject.

† In order to keep in use the regulations prescribed by the university, whether of discipline or teaching, there are two inspecteurs-généraux who are charged with the continual examination and inspection of the different establishments for education—both in respect to the masters or pupils.

‡ The royal council of public instruction.

royal, and every academy has a governor acting as minister of instruction in his circumscription, and assisted by a 'conseil académique,' (academic council) answering to the 'conseil royal,' (royal council) at Paris.

The different public establishments within each academy are classed under one of the following heads :

1. The faculties.

2. The royal colleges. The communal colleges.

3. Institutions and schools (private establishments.)

4. Primary schools (public or private.)

The establishments for instruction being thus classed, instruction has also its classification.

Superior instruction.*

Secondary instruction.

Primary instruction.

Superior instruction consists in the faculties, divided into classes of theology, droit, médecine, science, and letters which confer the de-

* There is also attached to the department of superior instruction, eighteen secondary schools of médecine, and one establishment for the instruction of professors at Paris.

grees of bachelier, licencié, and docteur, (bachelor, licenciate, and doctor).

The places where the faculties are taught, answer to our universities:—of these there are in France 35.

Instruction secondaire (secondary instruction) consists, in philosophy, natural history, elementary mathematics, latin, greek, foreign languages, &c.

These are taught in the royal and communal colleges, which answer to our public schools; and in some of the private establishments I have mentioned. There are in France :

Royal colleges, 39.

Communal colleges, 320.

Private colleges, 2.

Private institutions, 120.

Small private schools, 1,025.

Primary instruction is divided into two branches, primary superior instruction, and primary instruction. The first consists in reading, writing, summing, history, geography, and some notion of chemistry and surveying. The second, simply in reading, writing, and summing.

There were in 1832 fifty schools for the education of masters of primary education, and sixteen more were then about to be formed : the number of primary schools is upwards of 45,000 ; of which, nearly 32,000 are communal ; the rest are private.

In these different establishments there are masters, about 10,000.

Scholars :

Superior instruction	16,303
Secondary instruction. . . .	71,036
Primary instruction	1,935,624
	<hr/>
	2,062,963

By comparing the number of pupils with the sum expended in secondary and primary instruction, (board of course not included)

Every pupil at a royal college re-

ceives his education for . . .	162f. 65
—————commercial college .	87f. 17
—————primary school . .	4f. 15

The royal colleges are supported by their own funds, by a grant from the university and by a royal donation of 601,500frs. which go to the education of scholars who distinguish themselves.

Communal colleges are supported by any funds they may possess, and by departmental, and communal contributions. It is endeavoured to have one of these colleges in each *arrondissement*.*

The funds then applied to the general expenses of instruction proceed from the vote of the budget—the monies belonging to the university, now consolidated and left at diffe-

* Primary instruction is paid by the communes, by the departments, and by the state. Every commune is obliged, either by itself or by uniting with another commune, to have at least one school of instruction *primaire*. All communes having more than 6000 inhabitants are obliged, besides, to have a school of instruction *primaire supérieure* and every department is obliged, either by itself or by uniting with another department, to have a normal^a school of primary instruction. In the elementary schools, all the pupils that the municipal council declare incapable of paying, receive instruction gratis.

In every primary superior school, there are a certain number of places given to pupils who cannot pay, and who distinguish themselves in examination.

A committee is appointed in every commune, and in every *arrondissement* to overlook, and assist the instruction of their particular district. Much of this is stated in the Introduction, Vol. I. France, Social, Literary and Political.

^a A school for the education of schoolmasters.

rent times to former establishments, for the purposes of education—the revenues of the royal communal colleges—and the votes of the conseils-généraux (general council) of the departments, and of the conseils-municipaux (municipal council) of the communes ; and these funds, most of them called for by the government, are all applied under the regulations of the government towards the attainment of the object in view.*

COMMERCE.

The minister of this department, whose functions have also been sometimes appended to those of the minister of the interior, had his duties fixed in 1814, and presiding over every thing connected with commerce, except its tribunals, is the centre of a variety of chambers created for the purpose of promoting commercial and manufacturing interests.

* Besides these establishments dependent upon the university, there is, independent the ‘collège of France,’ of which the professors, named by the minister of instruction on a double presentation from the establishment, and the Institute are so justly celebrated.

There are, for instance, in the great commercial and manufacturing towns, chambers authorized by the King, and composed of a certain number of merchants called "chambers of commerce."*

The duty of these chambers is to make known to the minister, with whom they directly correspond, their views both as to what would improve, or as to what injuriously affect the commercial interests of the towns they belong to.

There are also chambers of a similar nature, called "chambers of arts and manufactures," which have for their object the improvement of manufactures by the experiments of art and science.

The "council general of commerce" is a more central council resident at the seat of government, composed of one person from each chamber of commerce, and of twenty persons from among the principal merchants of France. This council expresses its opinion to the minister on all questions of legislation or admini-

* When these chambers are in the capital of a department, they are presided over by the government; otherwise, their president is the mayor of the commune.

nistration relative to the commerce of the country, and is consulted on all laws that are introduced in respect to this subject.

Paris names eight, Lyons, Marseilles, Bourdeaux, Nantes, Rouen, and Havre, two.

There is then the “ conseil général des manufactures ” composed of twenty members named for three years by the chambers of arts and manufactures, and of forty members named by the minister of commerce with the approbation of the King.* This second council holds the same situation in respect to manufactures that the council does to commerce.

The “ conseil supérieur de commerce ” is a small body of twenty-four persons named by the King, a sort of privy council for the minister, who can consult it in respect to the demands or views of the two other councils which are representative.

Thus the whole system beginning with the chambers of commerce and manufactures, continues centralizing, through the councils of commerce and manufactures, and then through

* Ten members of the council of commerce belonging to the manufacturing town, also have the permission to enter it.

the conseil supérieur de commerce until at last it arrives at the minister himself.

THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR.

The duties of this functionary* resemble, in a great measure, those of our secretary for the home department, and when stripped of the accidental functions he is now invested with, his office is pretty well confined to presiding over the administration of the interior.

France, as we know, is divided into departments, which are subdivided into arrondissements, which are re-divided into cantons and communes.

* The office of minister of foreign affairs can offer no details necessary to elucidate this subject. That of minister of public works is now also engrossed by the minister of the interior; but I have not thought it necessary to enter into details of this department which is pretty well explained by its title, and answers to our minister of the woods and forests, with this exception, that the public roads are under his management and that all buildings erected, even by the communes, for public purposes, must have their plans submitted to his sanction.

There are for each department :

1. A prefect, a council of prefecture, and a council general of department.

There is for each arrondissement, except in that in which the prefect resides,

A sub-prefect, and under the immediate orders of the prefect.

A council of arrondissement.

In each commune there is a mayor, or chief magistrate.

One or more adjuncts or deputies.

A municipal council.

I proceed to detail the various functions of these authorities, commencing with the department.

The Prefect in France, named by the King, is at the head of the administration of every department, and in centralising the government of the province, he is one of the links in the central government of the country.

His duty is to see that the laws are obeyed. He has the power to suspend from their functions, the mayors of the communes and their substitutes, and himself dismissable at plea-

sure, is controlled by the minister of the interior only*.

The council of the prefecture, named also by the King, is the prefect's council, with whom he advises, and over whom he presides.

This body decides all disputes or difficulties between the undertakers of public works and the administration, as well as all damages due to private citizens from the erection of roads, &c. It has also the management of all national property in the department.

By the side of this assembly there is another—more popular, viz. the council general;—composed of the same number of members as there are cantons in the department, with this exception, however, that it must not contain more than thirty members.

A member of the general council is elected in each canton by an electoral assembly composed of electors and citizens who are on the jury list. If their number is under fifty, the complement is formed by calling to vote such

* His salary sometimes amounts to 80,000 francs. His office, therefore, is one of the most eagerly sought after, and bestowed only on persons in whom the government can implicitly confide.

other citizens as pay the greatest proportion of taxes.*

To be eligible to the council general of the department, the party must be in the enjoyment of all civil and political rights. He must be twenty-five years of age, and have paid, for a year and upwards, 200 francs, (£8.) of direct taxes.

The King can dissolve a council general; in which case a new election must take place within three months from the date of the dissolution.

The council meets once a year; its sittings are not public, and cannot exceed *fifteen days* in duration.

The duty of this assembly is, as I have said, to divide the direct contributions of the department among the arrondissements, and to determine the demands for reduction made by the different councils of the arrondissements, cities,

* In the departments, which have more than thirty cantons, the extra number is joined to others who elect their representative.

Public functionaries, salaried by the government, cannot be nominated members of the general council.

The members are nominated for nine years, and are renewed by one-third every three years.

The members are re-eligible.

burghs, and villages under its control. It also, as I have shewn, regulates, within the limits allowed by law, the number of additional *centimes* of which the imposition is required for departmental expenses; receives from the prefect an account of these sums, and expresses its opinion of the state and the wants of the department, in an address to the minister of the interior.

The duties of the sub-prefect resemble those of the prefect, but are confined to his own *arrondissement*.

The sub-prefect receives his orders from the prefect, and is accountable to him for their performance.

In each *arrondissement*, over which the sub-prefect presides, there is a council composed of as many members as there are cantons in the *arrondissement*.

The councillors are elected in these cantons by an electoral assembly, composed in the same manner as that which elects the councils general of departments.

The qualification requires the persons so elected to be aged twenty-five years and upwards, to be in the enjoyment of all civil and political rights, and to have been paying in the department, during a year at least, 150 francs (£6.) of direct contributions, one-third

of which must have been payable in the arrondissement, wherein their domicile has been.*

This council assembles once a year, at periods fixed by the King. The session cannot be more than fifteen days; being ten days before and five days after the meeting of the council-general.

The direct taxes are distributed by the arrondissement among the villages and burghs in its jurisdiction, as in the council-general; the direct taxes of the department are apportioned amongst the arrondissements.†

The council of the arrondissement also replies to all demands for diminution in their burthen, made by these villages and burghs.

It listens to the annual account of the sub-prefect as to the employment of the centimes additionnels for the local expenses of the department, and expresses an opinion on the wants and wishes of the arrondissement.

In the commune there are—a mayor and two adjuncts—chosen from the municipal council,

* The same disqualifications which apply to members of the council-general apply also to councillors of the arrondissement.

† See Finance.

and named by the King in the chef-lieu of an arrondissement, and in all communes where the population exceeds 3000 inhabitants.

In the other communes these officers are named by the prefect.

The appointment is for three years, and the persons nominated must be twenty-five years old, and have their domicile in the commune.*

Every commune has a municipal council, (the mayor and his adjuncts, are comprised.)

This council consists of ten members, where the commune has no more than 500 inhabitants.

Of twelve, where the commune contains from 500 to 1,500 inhabitants.

Of sixteen, where the commune contains from 1,500 to 2,500 inhabitants.

Of twenty-one, where the commune contains from 2,500 to 3,500 inhabitants.

* PERSONS DISQUALIFIED TO SERVE.

The members of the courts and tribunals of the first instance, and justices of the peace.

The ministers of any religion.

The officers of the navy or army in service.

The engineers on service.

The financial agents of the administration.

The commissaries and agents of police.

The mayor sees that public order is maintained, and the laws executed.

Of twenty-three, where the commune contains from 3,500 to 10,000 inhabitants.

Of twenty-seven, where the commune contains from 10,000 to 30,000 inhabitants.

Of thirty-six, where the commune contains 30,000 inhabitants, and upwards.

The council municipal is chosen by the electors of the commune.

The electors of communes are the most imposed among its inhabitants in the following proportions.

For communes of 1100 souls and under, one-tenth of the population. This number will increase by five for every one hundred inhabitants above 1000 up to 5000.

By four for every one hundred above 5000, up to 15,000.

By three for every one hundred above 15,000.

Besides the persons voting on account of their taxation, the members of courts of law, justices of peace, members of any chamber of commerce, or council of Prud'hommes; of any commission of colleges, or charitable establishments; all officers in the national guard, all members and correspondents of the Institut, all doctors of law, science or medicine; all advocates or notaries, all an-

cient functionaries of state, all officers of the army or navy receiving pensions; all scholars of the polytechnic school declared, on quitting, admissable to the public service, and who have resided a year in the commune; all persons voting for the elective deputies of councils-general of the departments, whatever be their contributions in the commune—all these vote as communal electors.*

The council of the commune is elected for six years (the members being re-eligible), and it is renewed by one half every three years.

The King, however, can dissolve it at any time, and a re-election must then take place within three months.

It sits four times a year, and each sitting may last for ten days.

The business of this body is to investigate the wants, and provide for the expenses of the commune; and in this, its jurisdiction is prescribed by the obligation of a definitive sanction, either from the sub-prefect or the prefect, who depend upon the central government, or from the minister of the interior himself.†

* The council municipal must be chosen from the list of the electors of the commune, and three-fourths must at least be domiciled within it.

† See Finance.

Thus we see a perpetual series of links—the mayor in the commune, the sub-prefect in the arrondissement, the prefect and his council in the department, all connecting the administration of the village with that of the empire ; and lastly, in the very circumstance where men may be supposed most free, viz. the expenditure of their own money, they are subject to a control, which is sometimes advantageous in preventing their extravagances and mistakes, but which can never form their judgment.*

* The minister of the interior is at the head of the civil force of the country, i. e. the national guard ; but this is mentioned subsequently.

MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

CHAPTER X.

The Army—The Legion of Honour—The National Guard.

MINISTER OF WAR, ETC.

I NOW come to that part of the public service where centralization is most wanted, and its construction most perfect:—I mean the Army.

The minister of war in France contains within his jurisdiction, the direction of every branch of the military service. The armament the recruitment, the discipline, the punishments, the movement, the victualling of the troops, all come under his inspection and form the rays as it were that centre in his control.

In his office there is to every kind of service and species of administration, its separate superintendence;—under the following terms:

1. Direction du cabinet du ministre.

2. Direction des archives or du dépôt de la guerre.

3. Direction de l'infanterie.

4. Direction de la cavalerie.

5. Direction de l'artillerie.

6. Direction du génie.

7. Direction de la justice militaire.

8. Direction des mouvemens de troupes et des transports et convois.

9. Direction de l'intendance militaire.

10. Direction de la comptabilité.*

All these boards thus concentrated in the ministry of war, correspond with two great administrations, viz. Des divisions militaires; des intendances militaires†—administrations disseminated throughout the kingdom—which for this purpose is divided into sixteen juris-

* 1. Direction of the cabinet of the minister.

2. Direction of the archives or of the depot of war.

3. Direction of the infantry.

4. Direction of the cavalry.

5. Direction of the artillery.

6. Direction of the engineers.

7. Direction of military justice.

8. Direction of the movement of troops, transports, convoys, &c.

9. Direction of the military intendance.

10. Direction of accounts.

† Military divisions and military intendances.

dictions, each of which has two sub-jurisdictions, formed ordinarily of a department.

“The military divisions,” as they are called, have altogether a military character; at the head of each is a lieutenant-general, who has under him at the head of each sub-division a *maréchal-de-camp*. The lieutenant-general has the control and inspection of all the troops within the sphere allotted to him. Their recruiting, their exercise and instruction, their police and distribution into garrisons and detachments; cavalry, infantry, artillery, engineers, (*gendarmerie*, even, though that force is set in motion by a separate authority) are all and equally under him, and he reports from time to time to the ministry of war, the numbers, and discipline; everything in short relating to the force of the troops under his command.

These reports are made under their special heads, and go accordingly to the different directions allotted to them in the war office.

The chiefs of these directions make a report thereupon to the minister of war, and he sometimes decides himself, sometimes takes the advice of the King, respecting them.

The military intendants are the civil administration of the army; and are directed by

intendants and sub-intendants stationed through the country, in the same manner as the generals and *maréchaux-de-camps*. Thus the intendant general resides in the same town as the lieutenant-general, and the sub-intendant in the same town as the *maréchal-de-camp*.

There are as many intendants therefore as divisions, and as many sub-intendants as subdivisions.

The intendant, in the same manner as the lieutenant-general, communicates with all the corps stationed in his district and with the minister of war respecting them; but his functions lie wholly in the details respecting the pay and commissariat of the army, the purchasing and accounting for all victuals, etc. etc.

His communications on these subjects pass through the *bureaux de comptabilité*, (boards of accounts) the financial board of the war office;—and are there submitted to the minister of war himself, who usually confers upon them with the King. Thus, every thing relating to the army, arrives at the minister of war by two channels; the one relating to the military and the other to the economical part of the service.

The separate reports he thus receives, he can compare together, and in this manner pretty easily acquaint himself not only with the efficiency of the parties reporting; but also

with the actual state of the army in the district referred to. The report of the general specifies the numbers of the troops in his division ; the report of the intendant, the pay, provisions and expense ; one account checks the other.

But in order to have some still further check upon these officers themselves, there are appointed inspectors-general ; officers of the rank of lieutenant-general or *maréchal-de-camp*, who are sent every year into the different divisions.

The inspector-general examines into every part, military and economic of the service, enters into the minutest details, passing seven or eight days with each regiment. There he receives every man from the colonel to the private soldier ; listens to all complaints and demands, and reports in the fullest manner on what has passed to the minister of war, who thereby sees the accuracy of the statements already made to him.

The army of France forms so interesting a part of the power and policy of that country, that perhaps it will not be uninteresting if I go into further details respecting it.

COMPOSITION OF ARMY.

The French army is composed of infantry, cavalry, artillery, and engineers.

The infantry is divided into infantry of the

line, and light infantry. The infantry of the line consists of sixty-six regiments, each of three thousand six hundred and twenty men, in four battalions of eight hundred and sixty-two men each. A battalion has eight companies of one hundred and eight men, to each of which are attached a captain, a lieutenant, and sub-lieutenant. There is attached, besides, to each of these regiments a company called—‘*hors-rang*’ (out of the ranks)—composed of the servants of the small staff, the musicians, the master workmen, etc.

The light infantry is composed of twenty-one regiments, each of three battalions only.*

The cavalry is divided into the ‘*cavalerie de réserve*,’ ‘*cavalerie de ligne*,’ et *cavalerie légère*.’†

The cavalry of the reserve comprises two regiments of *carabineers*, and ten of *cuirassiers*: every regiment being nine hundred and sixty men, and seven hundred and sixty-nine horses.

* In the epaulettes of the officers there is also a trifling difference; those of the line are gold, those of the light infantry silver. This forms the sole difference between the light infantry and the infantry of the line, with the exception that the light infantry uniform has yellow, that of the line red, facings.

† Cavalry of reserve, cavalry of line, and light cavalry.

strong. The regiment is divided into six squadrons, each squadron being commanded by a captain commandant, a second captain, two lieutenants, and two sub-lieutenants. A 'chef d'escadron' has two squadrons under his command.

The *cavalry of the line* consists of twelve regiments of dragoons, and six regiments of lancers. The only difference between these regiments and the others, is the circumstance that they are stronger in numbers; their effective being one thousand and fifty-six men, and eight hundred and sixty-five horses.

The *light cavalry* consists of twelve regiments of 'chasseurs' and six of hussars. These regiments have the same divisions and force as the lancers.

The artillery has eleven regiments of four squadrons each. Each squadron has four batteries; the numerical force of these regiments is of two thousand men, and one thousand horses.

The *engineers* have three regiments whose strength is the same as that of the light infantry. A train company is attached to each of these regiments; there is also a batallion of 'pontonniers' whose duty it is to construct bridges, etc. during war; six train squadrons of park artillery; and a train corps for mili-

tary equipages ; but as these bodies are only useful in time of war, it is impossible now to state their effective force which varies with the expectation of their being wanted.

There are, besides what I have mentioned, a number of corps that also form part of the army, but which are stationary and not destined for active service. The '*gendarmérie* which forms the *police municipale*, (municipal police) are spread in the sixteen great divisions I have mentioned over the whole surface of France. The companies of veterans do duty in forts. The company of '*garde côtes*' (coast guards) are stationed at sea-ports. The municipal guard of Paris abides there under the orders of the prefect of police. The company of *douaniers*, (Custom-house officers) are in the service of the custom house. Other small bodies might also be mentioned of a similar character.

RECRUITING.

Such being the composition of the army, it is recruited in two manners ; by conscription (appels) or by voluntary enlistment. The calls are made once a year in virtue of a law, which the chambers pass, and which is approved of by the King. This law calls under the tricolor from sixty, to eighty thousand men

per annum, according to circumstances, and the government distributes between the departments the proper contingent of each to the general levy. At the commencement of the year, the different mayors meet at the *chef-lieu* (chief town) of their *arrondissement* bringing with them all the young men belonging to the several communes, who have completed their twentieth year; the sub-prefect, who administers in the *arrondissement*, having already prepared a list for that *arrondissement* containing the names of the young men liable to the conscription. After the effective of the contingent is determined, and the number which each canton is to supply ascertained, the young men inscribed on the list proceed to draw lots, and the first names that come forth are those to be enrolled. A short time after this, however, a council of revision is held, at which claims for exemption and other objections against the service are heard. A final list is then made out, and the individuals, whose names are found in it, are subsequently and definitively called to the ranks of the army in virtue of a royal ordonnance.

The military authorities then direct the young soldiers by detachments, more or less considerable, to the corps of which they are

to compose a part. Arrived at their destination they are incorporated in the companies or squadrons, so as to be properly mixed with the ancient soldiers. Their uniform is given to them, and, on the first review of the regiment, they are brought forward to take an oath of fidelity to the King, to the country, and to the tricolored flag. The form of the oath is, “*Je jure d’être fidèle au roi, à l’honneur et à la patrie, et de ne jamais abandonner les drapeaux !**” The transformation of the peasant, the artisan, the labourer, or the ‘bourgeois’ is now complete !†

The legal duration of service in the army is seven years.‡ At the expiration of that period the soldier receives his discharge, and generally returns to his native district, and former employment. Some, however, re-engage in the army for two, or four years, but

* I swear to be faithful to the king, to the honour of the country, and never to quit my standard.

† None are admitted to the army who have been condemned for any disgraceful offence.

‡ About one sixth, it is calculated, re-enlist for two or four years. These receive a bounty of 22 francs, for two years, and 44 francs for four years ; besides, 8 centimes per day additional, after two years’ service, and 10 centimes after six. I speak of infantry of the line. The other corps receive something more.

these are generally of a class who would find it difficult to gain their livelihood in another manner.

The conditions of voluntary enlistment differ in no way from the conditions imposed on the soldier by conscription. Like him, the volunteer cannot retire from the service during the period of his engagement, till he has found a proper substitute. During the times of peace the number of volunteers is small. But, in war, or at a whisper of war, the military spirit of France revives. Immediately after the revolution of July, sixty thousand rushed to the national standard.* In 1832, there were eleven thousand nine hundred and eight volunteers, of whom, one thousand three hundred and fifty-five were from the department of the Seine.

In 1833, there were but five thousand five hundred, and ninety-one—of whom, eight hundred and thirty-nine came from the department of the capital.

The persons so engaging, in time of peace, are naturally men for the most part without employment, persons whose enterprising

* Most of these, on the chance of war disappearing, purchased substitutes.

and adventurous character has already embarked them in scrapes ; but sometimes young men of respectability, wishing to enter the military career without undergoing the discipline of the military schools, engage in this humble manner.

The sons of the greatest and richest families of France, of dukes and peers, have not disdained to arrive at the rank of an officer, by passing through the duties of a common soldier. And this not in appearance merely, but in reality. Many are the instances that could be cited of these young gentlemen doing their duty in every respect as a private of the ranks ; supporting the severest fatigues and privations ; currying their horses, cleaning their stables, and carrying the forage on their shoulders ; nor is it extraordinary to meet in a soldier's room, the descendant of a noble family and the bearer of a great name, sharing his bed with the son of one of his domestics. These examples were frequent under the restoration—more so immediately after its overthrow :—not so frequent at the present time.

THE PAY.

The pay of the army is much the same now, that it was prior to the revolution of

1789. The necessity for a great army, and the difficulty of supporting a great expense, made this almost a matter of course ; and under these circumstances it has even required an effort to keep up the ancient scale.

The pay then of the officer and the soldier, the former perhaps has the least to complain of, is in France as elsewhere, but a miserable pittance for the services he has to perform, and the station he ought to maintain.

At the present moment the grade of a ‘ sous-lieutenant ’ of the line — a rank equivalent to our ensign or cornet, is 1500 francs per annum, in the foot regiments, and 1725 francs in the cavalry. This is about the salary of a secondary merchant’s junior clerk.*

The pay of all the other superior officers is in the same proportion, as that of the sub-lieutenant. A colonel has 6,250 francs per annum in the infantry, and 6,875 in the cavalry. A lieutenant-colonel 5,275 in the infantry, and 5,875 in the cavalry. A chef-de-bataillon or d’escadron 4,500 in the infantry, 5,000 in the cavalry.

INFANTRY.

Captains.	{ 1st class, 3,600 francs.
	{ 2nd class, 3,000 ditto.

See Manual Législation Militaire.

Lieutenants.	{ 1st class,	1,875 francs.
	{ 2nd class,	1,650 ditto.

CAVALRY.

Captains.	{ 1st class,	3,750 francs.
	{ 2nd class,	3,450 ditto.

Lieutenants.	{ 1st class,	2,175 francs.
	{ 2nd class,	1,875 ditto.

A marshal of France has 40,000 francs; a lieutenant-general, if commanding, 40,000 frs.; if not, 15,000 in peace, and 18,750 in war; a *maréchal-de-camp* has 10,000 frs. in peace, and 12,500 in war.

It is to be remembered that commissions are not purchased, and that, therefore, the pay, such as it is, which the officer receives, is wholly reward for his services, and not interest for his money. As to the soldier, his cost to the state cannot perhaps be exactly calculated because his arms, accoutrements, his barrack-room, the principal part of his clothing, are furnished by the public magazines and manufactories; but his daily allowance will give an adequate idea, in other respects, of his situation.* It amounts, on an average to, 48 centimes, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ d a day. From this pittance 10 centimes, one penny, are withheld as a provision for the linen and stockings he may

* *Nouveau guide des sous-officiers.*—(New guide for non-commissioned officers,)

require, and for the small articles necessary to his dress and cleanliness ; 30 centimes three halfpence, are kept for his food, and he is supplied with one pound and a half of tolerable bread in addition ; 8 centimes, about three farthings, are given to him for pocket money. Such is the state of the French soldier.*

It will be easily believed, that with resources apparently so inadequate, it would be impossible for him to exist but under a system of the most rigid economy. For this purpose, a subaltern officer is charged in each company with the control of the sum appropriated for food, and is in fact the superintendant of the mess, for it is by *messing* the food that a sum so minute is rendered sufficient for the purpose. This officer purchases himself at market the articles necessary ; some soldiers are metamorphosed into cooks, and the dinner is divided into small tin dishes, and distributed fairly to each soldier of the company. The soldier has two meals a day, one at ten o'clock, and the other at five. The first is composed of

* The two flank companies receive a halfpenny (5 cent) a day more ; and, as we have seen, those re-engaging after 8 years service, 8 cents. more.

soup, and a quarter of a pound of boiled beef; the second of a small portion of vegetables, generally of potatoes or beans, with a quarter of a pound of mutton or veal. The only drink given is water; wine, brandy, or other spirits are only distributed, and then, in very small proportions, on the occasion of public rejoicings, or on a visit of the General.*

PENSIONS.

As some atonement for the exiguity of his pay, the soldier has the prospective of a pension.

* When the soldier is in the colonies a slight difference in the arrangements takes place. He has 1 lb. $9\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of bread, with $8\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of salt or fresh beef, or 7 oz. of pork daily. When on the war establishment, 1 oz. of rice, or 2 oz. of peas, and half an ounce of salt. Instead of paying 30 cents. for his messing, he pays only 20 in the colonies, and 14 on the war establishment.

Soldiers of good conduct are sometimes allowed to absent themselves from regimental duties, and work on their own account in the towns where they are quartered. They pay, in this case five centimes per day to the mess, and six francs a month to the soldier who does their duty, and cleans their arms. They must also pay for their linen, etc. unless their stock be complete.

In time of peace this is earned by thirty years, in time of war, by fifteen years' service.*

Besides this, the orphans and widows of those who have perished in battle,† receive a portion (about one-fourth) of the pension that their husbands, or fathers would have been entitled to for retirement, whatever may have been the period of their service, in the rank they held. The widows and children of pensioners are also paid according to the same regulation ; and the pension to a soldier's wife cannot be less than 100 frs.

The pensions of course vary according to rank, and the following table will exhibit their rates and proportions.

* Two years in the colonies are counted as three years.

† There is also for the officers what is called "*Traitements de réforme*," (half-pay allowance,) in which he is in a middle state, between being in the army and out of it. Those who have served 20 years may receive this pay for ten, without being called upon to re-enter the service ; those who have six years, for three, etc., etc. The allowance for a colonel is 1,200 frs. ; for a sub-lieutenant, 320 frs.

STATEMENT OF HALF-PAY ALLOWANCES, SHEWING
THE RATE ACCORDING TO RANK AND CORPS.

		Maximum.	Minimum.
		Francs.	Francs.
General Staff . . .	Lieutenant-general	6,000	5,000
	Maréchal-de-camp	4,000	3,500
	Colonel . . .	3,000	2,500
Royal Staff Corps	Lieutenant-colonel	2,400	2,000
	Chief of battalion .	2,200	1,800
	Captain . . .	1,600	1,200
	Lieutenant . . .	1,200	1,000
	Sub-lieutenant . .	1,000	800
Military intendants	Military intendant	4,000	3,500
	Sub-intendant . .	3,000	2,500
Commandants of Towns.	Colonel . . .	3,000	2,500
	Chief of battalion .	2,000	1,800
	Captain . . .	1,500	1,200
Town Adjutants .	Lieutenant . . .	1,200	1,000
	Sub-lieutenant . .	1,000	800
Board of Health .	Head surgeon . . .	2,000	1,600
	Assistant surgeon	1,000	800
Gendarmerie . . .	Colonel . . .	3,000	2,500
	Chief of squadron .	2,200	1,800
	Captain . . .	1,600	1,200
	Lieutenant . . .	1,200	1,000
	Quarter-master . .	450	400
	Brigadier . . .	360	310
	Gendarmie . . .	320	220
	Colonel . . .	3,000	2,500
Infantry of the Line	Lieutenant-colonel	2,400	2,000
	Chief of battalion .	2,000	1,800
	Captain . . .	1,600	1,200
Light Infantry . .	Lieutenant . . .	1,200	1,000
	Sub-lieutenant . .	1,000	800
Veteran Non-com- missioned officers	Adjutant non-com- missioned officer	600	500
Veteran Fusileers	Serjeant-major . .	500	400
	Serjeant . . .	400	300
	Corporals . . .	350	250
Artillery . . .	Soldiers . . .	300	200
	Colonel . . .	3,000	2,500
Cavalry . . .	Lieutenant-colonel	2,400	2,000
	Chief of squadron	2,000	1,800
	Major . . .	2,000	1,800
Artillery . . .	Captain . . .	1,600	1,200
	Lieutenant . . .	1,200	1,000
Artillery Train .	Sub-lieutenant . .	1,000	800
	Adjutant . . .	600	500
	Head quarter-master	500	400
	Quarter-master . .	400	300
	Brigadier . . .	350	250
	Soldiers . . .	300	200

DISCIPLINE.

We now come to the discipline of the French army.

ADMINISTRATION OF A REGIMENT.

The administration of each regiment is confided to a council, composed of the colonel, a *chef d'escadron* or *de bataillon*, a major, a captain, and the officer '*d'habillement*.* All these officers are convoked by the colonel, and deliberate, in common, on such matters as are connected with the administration of the regiment, excepting of course those which belong to the sovereign authority of the colonel, to whom the times of exercise, the rewards, punishments, and the general power over the troops is reserved. An account, however, is rendered by him once a week to the *maréchal de camp* of all matters regarding his regiment. He corresponds also with the minister of war, who, in very extraordinary circumstances, communicates his instructions directly through him. Without orders, however, he can do nothing of importance, forming merely a link in the system, which passing through the general and the intendant, centres at last in the war department.

* Who attends to the dress, &c.

PUNISHMENTS.

In every country, but in France particularly, military legislation must be severe. The principles of equality which have circulated among all classes, oppose and weaken the principles of military obedience. The military code, therefore, is necessarily more terrible in its provisions and punishments than the civil code. Twenty-two cases are made punishable with death. Revolt—in-subordination,—a blow from an inferior to a superior are certain to be followed by that punishment. Theft, which, by the ordinary law, is punished by imprisonment, and sometimes by solitary confinement, according to the military law, subjects the offender to the galleys. Every enactment is in the same proportion:—in 1832, out of an army composed of 388,402 men, 6,858 were brought up for justice (proportion to the total, 1 in 70).

Of this 6,858—

14 were sent before the ordinary tribunals,
from the incompetence of the Council
of War.

2,217 were acquitted.

4,627 were condemned: 93 to death—391
to hard labour—130 to seclusion—308

to the '*boulet*'*—1,149 to labour on the public works—2,556 to imprisonment.

It is to be observed that 1,555 were tried in the same month as their offence—2,267 in two months after their offence and 3,111 subsequently to that period.

24,064 witnesses were heard, and the expenses of the proceedings were 156,217 francs.

The sentences pronounced were not all executed.

Of the 4,627 condemned, 496 obtained an entire pardon; 656 a commutation of sentence; and 13 capital sentences were alone put into execution.

From the report of the minister of war we learn a very curious fact, viz. that of the 6,858 persons tried—2,806 were volunteers, and 2,359 substitutes for those who had enrolled; and but 1,693 persons entering by conscription, though the great bulk of the army is composed of these. It also appears that in the persons tried and condemned, there were out of 17 soldiers :

7 volunteers
6 substitutes
4 conscripts

* To drag the shot.

This sufficiently shews the great superiority of the conscripts over the other two classes of soldiers.

There was but one of the scholars from the military schools tried, and he was acquitted; and from the gendarmerie, a force of 15,514 men, but 15 were brought to trial. Two facts important to France—as well in respect to the discipline of her troops as the security of her citizens.

The officers of rank brought to trial, offering a total of 16,642—15. Of the sub-officers, of a total of 20,524—176.

Of the corporals, &c. 26,012—216.

The annexed tables give these and other particulars.

MODE OF PROCEDURE.

In every division, there are established, two permanent councils of war, and one council of revision—which is to the military courts what the “*cour de cassation*,” (court of cassation) is to the civil.

The permanent councils are formed from every rank, and contain a colonel who presides, a *chef-de-bataillon*, two captains, one lieutenant, one sub-lieutenant, and one non-commissioned officer.

The council of revision consists of five

members: one general officer who presides, one colonel, one chef-de-bataillon or d'escadron, two captains.*

The mode of proceeding is as follows: directly a person, subject to military law, is accused of an offence, his commanding officer arrests him, and institutes an enquiry into his conduct. Then, if against the person accused, there appears a fair probability of guilt, he, (the commanding officer) convokes the permanent council in his division—and before this council the offender is brought.

The tribunal hears the accusation, the witnesses on both sides, the defence, and then pronounces sentence. If three out of seven members declare the accused innocent, he is at once discharged—if five pronounce him guilty, the commissary of the King demands the application of the law against him.

The president reads the law, and again, if five determine on the same punishment, that

* For generals-in-chief or of division, for colonels, majors, and chef-de-bataillon or d'escadron, as well as for permanent military intendants, and sub-intendants, the councils of war are rather differently composed. In besieged towns, in departments in a state of trouble or civil war, councils are formed on the same principle of the best materials that can be found.

one is adopted, if not, the opinion in favour of the mildest sentence is the one acted upon.

The criminal is then told the result of his trial, and twenty-four hours allowed him for demanding his case to be brought before a council of revision.

The council of revision can annul the sentence.

1. When the permanent council of war has not been formed on a legal manner.

2. When it shall have passed beyond its competence, either in respect to the criminal, or the laws.

3. When it shall have declared itself incompetent in the case.

4. When the trial has not been conducted properly.

5. When the punishment adjudged is not a legal one.

Within twenty-four hours after the decision of the permanent court, if the case be not adjourned to the court of revision—and immediately* after the judgment of the court of revision, if it be—the criminal, if sentenced to be put in irons, or to be sent to the galleys, or to proceed to a ‘*compagnie de discipline*,’*

* There are about 2000 men in what are called the companies of discipline—to which soldiers maiming

or to a military penitentiary,* is escorted by the gendarmes to his destination. Should he be condemned to death, he is taken back to his regiment, and there, unless a pardon or reprieve be anticipated, shot forthwith.†

themselves to prevent serving, or of a refractory disposition, are sent. In these companies, which are always in fortified towns, besides the ordinary military duties, the soldiers are employed in works of fortification, where the latter is in general very severe.

* The military penitentiaries are recent and experimental institutions, to which soldiers, whom there may be the hope of reclaiming, are sent to instead of to the galleys. Here the prisoners are employed in different useful trades, receive the elements of instruction, and have a careful attention paid to their comparative conduct.

† There are, besides the great military tribunals that I have described, two for the officers, and one for the soldiers of a secondary description.

Those for the officers are called '*conseils d'enquête*,' (councils of inquiry); and those for the soldiers '*conseils de discipline*,' (councils of discipline.)

The '*conseils d'enquête*' are divided into '*conseils de divisions*,' (councils of division,) and '*conseils de régiment*,' (regimental councils.)

The first concerns all officers in a division as high as the rank of colonel, the second the inferior officers of a regiment.

These councils take cognizance of such offences as become sufficiently serious to disturb the good order of

I believe great severity is required in the French military code ; it has, however, been considered unnecessarily great, and whatever might be required in time of war, it appears possible to many military men in France, to do without the punishment of death in time of peace, except in cases of murder, or perhaps treason. Acts of mere insubordination are rarely the result of calculation or deliberation before hand. They result in most cases from some momentary effervescence ; and then the punishment of death, or any other penalty, is never thought of or cared for by the excited soldier.*

If some offences, however, are punished so severely in the French army, others receive a mild and honorable chastisement, directed es-

the army, though they do not subject the offender to the military code. And they can punish by suspension of rank or employment.

The ‘ *conseil de discipline*’ (councils of discipline), is for offences of the same description, and may send a soldier to the ‘ *compagnie de discipline*,’ (discipline company.)

* It may be here worth observing that in the same year which I have been speaking of in France—as giving the result upon 388,000 men, of 6,858 committals on serious offences, there were within our force in Ireland and Great Britain, (about 50,000 men,) 920 soldiers in gaol, while 370 corporal punishments took place in the same year.

pecially at the mind of the soldier and that sentiment which is the basis of his service.

These smaller punishments are the *corvée*, (excessive labour) a *consigne au quartier*—(confinement to his quarter)—*la salle de police*, (imprisonment,) the *cachot*, (dungeon) and interdiction to carry his sabre out of the ranks. The small faults or negligences are all punished by the *corvée*, or by confinement to quarters. The *corvée* is work imposed on the soldier, who is obliged when not on duty, to devote himself to it, and is generally both of a tiresome and fatiguing description. He is made to bring the soup into town for his comrades on guard; to carry forage, and do any other menial offices required. The punishment of confinement to his quarters in addition to his being interdicted from leaving his barracks, subjects him also to those portions of the punishment I have just described, which can be performed in quarters. He is besides placed in a corps which is designated the '*peloton de punition*,' which '*peloton*' is commanded by a *non-commissioned* officer equally confined; and here the sergeant and soldier, if they do not pay the same attention to their duty, as in ordinary exercise, are subjected to a continuation of their punishment. Sometimes the nature of the offence will be printed in large letters, and the soldier made to

appear with it on his jacket turned inside out ; a punishment sufficiently humiliating to him, especially when the exercise which he is obliged to go through, is performed in some public place out of the barracks.

“ *La salle de police*” includes the above punishments ; but the culprit, in addition, is deprived of his room and bed, and obliged to sleep on bare plank— his duty and exercise continuing as before. The *prison* only differs from the *salle de police*, in this, that the offender is immediately locked up when he has performed either his military service, or the degrading duties of the other punishments. “ *Le cachot*” is close imprisonment. The prohibition to carry his side arms when off duty, another punishment which I have mentioned, attacks the ‘ *amour-propre*’ of the French soldier, and is invariably found to be equally severe and effective. In order, indeed, to give it the appearance of great degradation, the colonel has only the power of interdicting the soldier from carrying his side arms for the space of sixty days ; it requires the general of the division to prolong that term.

Every superior has the right to punish his inferior for any fault he may be guilty of. But

the law provides and specifies the amount of the punishment, which *cannot be exceeded*. From the corporal, who can inflict four days' confinement to the barracks, or two days to the '*salle de police*,' up to the colonel, who can sentence to a month's confinement to the barracks, and fifteen days to the '*cachot*;' the different powers of the various ranks of officers, in everything concerning these punishments are explained and determined by military regulations; at the same time the *colonel* has, of course, the power to augment or diminish the punishment, or to pardon the offence if he thinks proper. He is entitled also to punish the superior officer who has exceeded or abused his authority in inflicting an extravagant or unmerited punishment on his inferior.

The faults of the most frequent occurrence are generally the lightest, and are punished as soon as committed. But even when any of these trifling delinquencies are frequently repeated by the same individual, and when any species of incorrigibility is exhibited, the punishment very properly becomes more severe. A non-commissioned officer, or corporal, or soldier of the first class, is degraded. This punishment which affects the future prospects of the offender is, however, considered an exceedingly

severe one, and but rarely inflicted, except when all other means of correction have been tried and failed. The degradation is inflicted in the French army in presence of the regiment on parade.

PUNISHMENT OF OFFICERS.

The severer punishments of the officers are regulated, of course, by the ordinary provisions of the military code: the minor punishments to which they are subjected, are, simple arrests, reprimand, close arrests, imprisonment. The *simple arrests* oblige the officer to confine himself to his chamber, without authority to leave it, but when called to perform his military duty, from which it would appear he is not even provisionally suspended. The *reprimand*, which must proceed from the colonel, or officer in command of the regiment, is given to the officer in presence of one or more of his brother officers. *Close arrest* does not permit the officer to leave his room under any pretext, nor receive any person there, but under express authorization of his commanding officer. A sentinel is generally placed at his door, and an inferior officer is sent to demand and take away his sword. Confinement in *prison*, is

only resorted to in very serious cases. The colonel can sentence an officer to fifteen days ; — the lieutenant-general or the minister at war can only exceed that period.

One peculiarity which I may notice is that, it is the duty of the officer punished, when that punishment has been undergone, to make a formal visit to the colonel or commandant by whose orders it was inflicted. He must be accompanied by an officer of his own rank, and by another of a superior grade, and the visit must be gone through with all the established forms of politeness. It will not do to leave a card at the colonel's door ; the colonel takes care to inform the punished officer of the day and the hour on which he will have the honour of receiving him.

The military ordonnance, which prescribes these details, has had in view the wish to re-establish, by the visit, the good understanding which it supposes the punishment of the officer may have broken ; this may be a reasonable supposition, perhaps, where the fault and the punishment have been both trifling, or where the officer is conscious of his error and is glad of the opportunity to redeem it. But it too often happens that this formal visit renders more inveterate the private feelings

of hatred that may have existed before. When an officer conceives that he has been unjustly treated, or punished with unnecessary severity, such a visit, it may easily be imagined, can only be regarded by him as an addition to that treatment he complains of; and he can scarcely be expected to use such language, or to conduct himself so guardedly, as to fulfil the praiseworthy object for which the visit was ordered. It happens, therefore, but too frequently, that in place of friendship being renewed, and peace restored among the parties, a new and more implacable enmity commences, finally terminated by the death of one or other of the parties.*

HABITS, ETC.

Exercise of the person, racing, dancing, horsemanship, and all the exercises which are calculated to strengthen the constitution, and to develope address and agility, and daring on horseback, are encouraged among the troops. Gymnasiums have been established for this purpose in the principal garrisons, where a master in each of these different sorts of exercise

* In some cases, indeed, where this visit is considered too painful for the feelings of the officer forced to make it, it is dispensed with.

directs the young soldiers. In fine weather they are occupied daily in learning to swim, and in the exercise of swimming, as well as in swimming their horses across a river or a pond of sufficient depth. It is especially in the art of fencing that the soldiers are taught to excel. To be a good fencer is considered a great honor in the French army. Care is taken to give great solemnity to the competitions among the good swordsmen, so as to preserve the taste for this sort of exercise. It is easy to suppose that the practice of this art renders quarrels of very frequent occurrence—nothing, in fact, is more common than duelling among the soldiers. It might be in vain to oppose this propensity, but the chiefs of the corps seem rather to encourage it than otherwise, for, although they punish the offender with fifteen days' imprisonment, if he accept a challenge, they are the first to testify their contempt, and endeavour by all means in their power to expel him the army, if he decline one.

The life of the soldier in some measure resembles that of a monk. He passes as much time in the barrack as the monk does in the monastery. He has no connexion with the interior of a city. Scarcely has he time to make a slight acquaintance in the place where he is in garrison,

before he receives orders to march to another quarter, where he is an utter stranger. The change of garrisons takes place very frequently, and it would seem as if the government adopted the plan for the purpose of isolating more and more the soldier, and preventing his forming too close a relationship with the people. The very ties which bind him to his family are attempted to be broken, for he is only permitted under the most pressing circumstances to visit his relations; and to marry is altogether prohibited him. The officer, it is true, may marry, but *only* on the authorisation of the minister of war, who never consents but in cases where the *pecuniary interests* of the officer are to be *benefited*. The colonel of a regiment has also the power of granting permission to the non-commissioned officers, and even to the soldiers under him to marry; but it is only under very peculiar circumstances that this favour is allowed; it occurs, therefore, but very rarely; and, in fact, is almost entirely confined to the soldiers who wish to marry some woman who may be useful to the regiment as *cantonnière* or washer woman.*

* These regulations, it is to be observed, are not so severe as they may, with our own military habits, at first appear,

But while every endeavour is made to break the links which connect the soldier with the mass of the people, every incitement and encouragement to maintain "*l'esprit du corps*" is given. The men of the same company, or troop, live together; they are expected to support and defend each other mutually, and the chief subaltern of the party is instructed to keep up this sentiment of fraternity, by punishment, as well as by recompense. If one man conduct himself badly, it often happens that all his party come in for a share of his punishment, as if the whole company were considered responsible for the conduct of any one of its members. If, on the contrary, the man acquire merited praise, either from some act of public service or private conduct, the company again comes in for a share of the eulogy to the individual, and is recompensed in a body, by some small favours, as an exemption from roll-call and the like.

What I have said of the company applies equally to the battalion, to the regiment, and to the brigade. It not unfrequently happens, when there is an unusual assemblage of troops, because the soldier passes merely through the army in transition, and can in a short time return to the affections and habits of a civilian.

that some quarrel may spring up between two regiments, and it is then observed that other regiments take part on one side or the other, as they seem to be connected with the immediate parties, in respect to their similarity of military discipline. I remember seeing a singular quarrel of this description, which almost ended in a general battle between the infantry and cavalry at Versailles.

PROMOTION.

We are now come to the distinguishing feature of the French army, the principle of which, in fact, regulates and remedies the various parts of the system we have been considering.

The small pay, the severe discipline of the French soldier must have struck us on the one side, the constant appeals to his honor, and his love for his profession must also have struck us on the other. What makes this severe discipline and small pay supportable? From what cause does the military pride which characterizes him proceed?

It is his method of promotion. The man who enters at four-pence halfpenny a day in the ranks, may become, nay, has become, one of the

highest persons in the state. "The soldier carries on his *giberne*," (cartouch box) said Napoleon, "the baton of a marshal of France."

During the empire, the battle quickly cleared the intermediate spaces between subaltern and superior ranks. The restoration, desirous of encouraging the young nobility to arms, would gladly have given the same celerity to favour that had attended upon peril: here, however, the nation interposed.

In 1816 a law was passed regulating promotion; and this law anxious only to fetter the court, cramped and depressed the military ardour, which the natural spirit of the people and their long train of conquests had tended, of late more especially, to develope. By this law, no person could pass from one rank to another without four years service in the preceding grade. Not the greatest favorite could obtain the rank of colonel until eighteen years had been passed in climbing the long ladder of inferior steps.

Nothing was more fatal to the old monarchy than this very law; for it drove all the nobility, and the richer and higher classes of society out of it, and thus, with the exception of a few regiments, the army in general was entirely democratic and easily disposed, when a

contest arose to take the same views, and the same course as the people.

In 1832, the new government, though composed of many of the men who contended for the law of 1816, presented another law entirely opposed to it. It is no longer, then, now, as under the restoration, an interval of four years of service in each grade, that renders the officer qualified for promotion. It is sufficient that he has served two years in an inferior, or three years in a superior, to be eligible to higher rank. There is also this difference between the two laws, that the present law requires a longer service in the superior rank than in the inferior; while the law of 1816, on the contrary, required longer service and, in consequence, more experience from the subaltern than from the superior officer, which was evidently an absurdity. This law has likewise guarded against favoritism, by being more favourable to seniority. The law of 1816 allowed only a third of the nominations to seniority, that of 1832 gives the moiety; with the exception however, of the ranks of colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and general, where age cannot reasonably be taken as the title for elevation.*

* It seems sufficient for officers to arrive to the rank of major with no other title to merit than their age.

According to this new law, the time necessary to pass from one grade to another, is thus regulated :

Six months service for a soldier to become a soldier of the first class.

Six months for a soldier of the first class to become *corporal*, in the infantry, or *brigadier* in the cavalry.

Six months for a corporal or *brigadier* to become sergeant in the infantry, or *maréchal des logis*, or *fourrier* in the cavalry.

Six months sergeant or *maréchal des logis*, to become sergeant major, or *maréchal des logis chef*.

Six months sergeant-major, or *maréchal des logis chef*, to become *adjutant-sous-officier*.

Three years service to become *sous-lieutenant*—the first and lowest rank of a commissioned officer.

Two years service as a sub-lieutenant, to become lieutenant.

Two years lieutenant to become captain.

Two years captain to become *chef-de-bataillon* in the infantry, or *chef-d'escadron* in the cavalry.

Three years major, (the above ranks are equivalent to that of major in our service) to become lieutenant-colonel.

Three years lieutenant-colonel to become colonel.

Three years colonel to become *maréchal-de-camp*.

Three years in this last rank to become lieutenant-general ;—that grade in the military hierarchy, above which the only dignity is *maréchal de France*.

It is thus seen, that the simple soldier rises as the rest, if his education and good conduct qualify him for promotion. Indeed, the law I have been quoting assigns a third of the nominations of sub-lieutenant to soldiers rising from the ranks*—the remaining two-thirds being reserved, one for the pupils of the military schools ; and the other for the particular choice of the King.

Since the revolution of July, it has so happened that many officers of different corps having left the service : it became necessary to raise a great number of non-commissioned officer in each regiment, to the rank of officers.

This circumstance has been considered highly favorable to the good disposition of the army, and has awakened in the body of the non-

* Not only does the soldier in these cases give nothing for his commission, he is made an allowance, when he receives it, for his equipment.

commissioned officers, those hopes of distinction and promotion which attached them to the empire, a circumstance of which it is impossible to over-estimate the effects.

The non-commissioned officer lives with the soldier; and there being no aristocratic feelings operating against him, exercises almost an absolute authority over his inferior. A body of unruly or undisciplined non-commissioned officers carry with them in a revolt the entire regiment, and can equally in times of trouble secure its discipline and obedience.

I have said that one third of the commissions are given to the military schools; it will be interesting to say something of these.

The *Ecole Polytechnique* (Polytechnic school) at Paris, is exclusively for artillery and engineers, and on quitting it, the young officer goes for two years to the *Ecole d'application d'Artillerie et du Génie*, (the school for the artillery and engineers) at Metz.

The *Ecole Militaire de St. Cyr*, (the military school of St. Cyr) is for young officers of the line, who, if they pass an examination at the end of two years are made sub-lieutenants.

The admission to this school is in itself sub-

mitted to an examination, and can only be the result of successful competition.

On the 20th July every year this examination takes place in all the principal towns in France, the names of the candidates having been previously inscribed on the 10th June. The candidates must be not less than eighteen, nor more than twenty-one years of age.

The examination is in Latin, French, German, arithmetic, algebra, chemistry, geography, and history; and after these different local examinations a jury at Paris, composed of three general officers, four special examiners, the commandant of the school of St. Cyr, the director of the studies of that academy, and a president, decides on the various claims.

The pupils pay 250 francs on admission for their trousseau, and 1,800 francs per annum;* on quitting St. Cyr, some are engaged in the duties of sub-lieutenant in the infantry, and others, a privileged class, in consequence of having obtained the prizes at the school competitions, pass two additional years at the '*Ecole spéciale de l'état major*,' (school special for the staff) after which they can serve in the capacity of aide-de-

* One in every twenty-five is received and educated gratuitously. These must be persons in distress, and the children of officers in the army.

camp to a general, or be employed on the staff. Some again, destined for the cavalry, are sent to the *Ecole de Cavalerie de Saumur*, where they are taught riding and the service of the cavalry, and there qualify themselves to take rank among the officers of the cavalry regiments. In this school, which is one of the finest establishments of the sort in Europe, three classes receive a complete military education. The first class is composed of captains, lieutenants and cornets of each regiment, who, at the end of two years' study, rejoin their corps and carry there, in quality of *instructors*, the knowledge which they have acquired during their residence at Saumur. The second is formed of young officers from St. Cyr, and the third of young volunteers who at the end of two years proceed, with the rank of non-commissioned officers, to the regiments of cavalry, as '*maréchaux des logis instructeurs*,' (instructors) and assist the principal *instructeur* (instructor) in the education of the soldiers.

The '*Ecole d'état Major*' (school for the staff) is for officers destined for that branch of service. The scholars are admitted after an examination, at which, out of 60 candidates, 22 are chosen.

The candidates are of two descriptions,—30

from the military schools, and 30 from the army.

To these, three are added from the Ecole Polytechnique. The 25 entering form the first division; the 25 who have already been a year, the second. At the end of two years the scholars leave.

The military professors are :—

- 1 Professor of topography and of geodesia.
- 1 idem of geography, astronomy, and statistics.
- 1 idem of artillery.
- 1 idem of the military art, and of service of the staff-major.
- 1 idem of fortification, attack, and defence of fortresses.
- 1 idem of military administration.

Besides, the chef de bataillon, charged with the police of the school, explains the theory of the manœuvres of infantry, and one of the capitaines-adjoints, the theory of cavalry manœuvres.

The civil professors are :

- 1 Professeur de machines, et de lavis.
- 1 idem of drawing landscape, shades, and perspective.
- 2 idem of the German language.

The scholars are in barracks, but enjoy every liberty compatible with their studies.

Besides these principal schools, there are still others, called ‘*Ecoles régimentaires*’ which serve for the instruction of non-commissioned officers and soldiers ; teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, history, etc.

I have now run shortly over the principal features of the French army.

First, its administration which is very remarkable.

Secondly, its composition and formation the striking circumstance of which, is the superior class of persons, which by conscription it obtains.

And thirdly, its discipline sustained by the balance of severe punishment on the one side, and great encouragement on the other : but, in reference to the encouragement given to military talent I ought to say something of that institution which, though not wholly military, has been the greatest incentive to military ability, and furnishes at the present moment an example in every respect worthy of imitation to the rest of Europe ;—I mean “ the institution of the Legion of Honour.”

LEGION OF HONOUR.

The royal order of the Legion of Honour was instituted by the law of the 29 *floréal*, year

10, to recompense military and civil virtues and services.

The order is composed of :

Chevaliers, of whom the number is unlimited.

Officers 2000.

Commanders . . . 400.

Grand officers . . 160.

Grand crosses . . 80.

Neither foreigners nor Princes of the Royal Family are included in these numbers. The members swear fidelity to the King, to the charter and the laws.

No one can be admitted but with the first grade as chevalier, and the ordinary regulation requires twenty-five years service during peace* in civil or military functions. In time of war, a brave or brilliant action, or a severe wound, are deemed sufficient authorization for admission. The exception to the former rule is indeed so frequent that it is sufficient to say the King can grant the honor of the order to any person distinguished for his services, in the military or civil departments, or for any benefit he may have conferred upon the sciences or arts.

But to rise to a superior rank, it is indispen-

* A year in time of war counts to the soldier as two.

sable to have passed through the inferior ranks, viz :

1. For the rank of officer, it is necessary to have served four years as a chevalier.

2. For the rank of commander,—two years as an officer.

3. For the rank of grand officer,—three years as a commander.

4. For the rank of grand cross,—five years as a grand officer.

When any promotions are to take place, the King determines the number of decorations of each grade—and a distribution is made by the grand chancellor of the order, in the following proportion, 40 in 40.

2 to the Minister of Justice and Religion.

1	“	Foreign Affairs.
5	“	Home Affairs.
2	“	Public Works.
2	“	Finances.
20	“	War.
5	“	Marine.
1	“	Public Instruction.
2	“	the Grand Chancellerie.

40

To every person decorated with this order certain military honors are due on all public

occasions, and at all times a soldier on duty presents arms on seeing the decoration.

The salaries are as follows :

Officers 1000 francs.

Commander 2000 ditto.

Grand Officers . . 5000 ditto.

Grand Crosses . . 5000 ditto.

All other members of inferior grade, 250 frs.

A colonel may recommend the officers and soldiers of his regiment in the subjoined proportion.

Infantry line.

1 Officer for the cross of officer.

6 Officers	{	Regt. of 3 Battalions.	{	For the Cross of Chevalier.
3 Subaltern officers or soldiers				

4 Officers	{	Regt. of 2 Battalions.	{	For the Cross of Chevalier.
2 Subaltern officers or soldiers				

Cavalry.

1 Officer for the Cross of Officer.

3 Officers	{	For the Cross of Chevalier.
1 Subaltern officer or soldier		

There are, besides the order of the Legion of Honour,—

The Order of St. Esprit.

St. Michel.

Mérite Militaire.

It is with extreme deference to military authorities that I venture on a few concluding remarks.

What I have been saying will have struck three classes of persons, I imagine, in three different manners.

The economist will have compared the fourpence half-penny a-week given to the French soldier, with the thirteen pence given to the British.

The philanthropist will have compared the mental punishment inflicted on the French soldier, in many instances, and which raises his character, with the corporal punishment, in the same cases, inflicted on the British soldier, by which his character is degraded.

And the soldier himself will have compared the facilities for attaining military distinction in the one country, and the impediments placed in the way of his attaining military distinction in the other.

Exaggeration upon all these subjects is no doubt likely to arise.

The British soldier is not paid so much more than the French soldier, when you consider, first, the different expenses of washing, and many minor necessities in France ; especially when you see that the messing of the British

soldier is eight-pence, and that of the French three-pence.

Neither is the punishment so much less severe in the French service than in the English, because, if the English soldier is sometimes flogged when the French soldier would not be so, the French soldier is sometimes shot where the English one would be flogged.

Neither is the hardship in respect to promotion entirely the same, as long as the two systems remain upon their present footing.

The English army is recruited by volunteers from the working class of England; that is to say, it is from the most destitute of a class, the great bulk of which is in a miserable state, and removed almost altogether, as well from the habits as the feelings of their country, from rising much above their native condition.

The French army, on the contrary, is recruited, not by volunteers of the working class, but by conscripts from every class, and the injustice would be terrible if you forced a man of fair prospects and education, to whom all professions were open, to engage in the army, and then did not allow him any chance of advancing himself in the service into which you had compelled him to enter.

The two armies are not to be compared as if

the state of government and the state of society were the same in the two countries ; they are to be contrasted as the results of two governments and two states of society entirely different.

I am painting in deplorable colours the condition of the British soldier. He is shewn me in the heart of Asia panting beneath a tropical sun, subjected to the lash, unvisited by any gleam of promotion ; and I am asked, is twenty-five years such service the melancholy vista through which he has to look for sixpence a day ?

God knows, I think the case cruel and severe enough !*

But see what his case would have been at

* If any effective regulations can be made to remedy this, they might be, first, in relation to corporal punishment ; secondly, in respect to pensions, and time of service. Better men might possibly enter the army, if the release they expected was of shorter date ; and at all events it would be fairer and kinder to give a more frequent opinion. A scale of pensions, not disadvantageous to the government, might easily be devised, favouring this,—allowing more than we now give after twenty-five years of service, and admitting the retirement on a small pension, or by purchase, at much shorter dates.

home ! Would he have been happier as a Sussex labourer, or a handloom weaver, or even a cotton spinner, in his native country ?

Now starved, now intoxicated, with his children here in the workhouse, and there in the factory ! the situation of the British soldier is relative to the situation that he would have held if he had not been a soldier, and of this you have the best assurance in the voluntary nature of his service. His punishments, his advancement are all according to the ideas which prevail in respect to the class he belongs to, and the position which, if a citizen, he would have filled.

You offer him a decent maintenance ; this he expects, if he works, because, as a peasant, he can get a scanty maintenance by law, if he does not work. You subject him to a life of much hardship and much constraint ; this he submits to, if he is paid, because, as a peasant, he would have also been subjected to severe toil, and much constraint.

You do not offer him much prospect of rising in the army, because he enjoyed, poor fellow, little prospect of rising in the world ! He is the creature of your laws and your habits, which declare that no man is to be compelled to any thing except by poverty, and, at the

same time, subject the great masses of society to this law of voluntary compulsion.

All is liberty, if you please to call it so, and inequality.

In France it is just the reverse. In the first place, the law, by what we should call an arbitrary enactment, has diffused the advantages of fortune amongst all persons; and, in the second place, it has, by another arbitrary enactment, forced all persons to be soldiers.

You are not, then, in looking at the army, to consider merely the army, but the state of society from which the army comes.

Every part of a system is much more interwoven with the whole than we are at first sight disposed to imagine: we place property in a few hands. Our next consequence must be—in order to preserve property—to place power in a few hands also.

What follows?—the high ranks are for the rich, the low for the poor.—

Apply this to the army!—Your officers buy their commissions;—your ranks are filled with the desperate and the starving. This army for a time serves the country it belongs to well, in spite of all theories to the contrary, because it reflects the society of that country where the rich are used to command and the poor to

obey. But other notions in respect to society and government spring up ; we discover things which we deem ought to be remedied. The first practice in medicine and legislation is to attack symptoms ; it is not until after much experience that we really assail the disease. But the same distemper shews itself differently in different persons, and is met for a time in different ways.

You wish to elevate the working classes, and you make laws against pauperism ; you wish to elevate the soldiery, and you make regulations against flagellation. You will come at last to some fact which lies at the bottom of all this.

NATIONAL GUARD.

I shall now say one or two words on the civil force of France, which has occupied more or less of our attention of late years.

The National Guard was re-organized by a law of the 22nd March 1831.

Every Frenchman, aged from twenty to sixty years, is obliged to serve in the district in which he is domiciled, with a few exceptions provided for by the law.

The service is divided into—service in the interior of the commune ; and into—service by

detachment out of the territory of the commune ; *i.e.* the service of detached corps for the purpose of aiding the troops of the line.*

There is the ordinary service, comprising all citizens who pay a personal contribution ; and there is a reserve, comprising all citizens for whom the habitual service would be too onerous ; these latter are only called out under extraordinary circumstances.

A national guard of cavalry may also be formed in any commune or canton where it may be judged useful or necessary, always providing that *ten* persons will undertake to equip and furnish themselves with horses at their own expense.

In all fortified places there are companies of artillery.

There are besides, companies of *sapeur-pompiers* in places where they do not exist, as belonging to the line ; and in the sea-ports, companies of marines are also formed.

The punishments, in cases of disobedience

* When the national guard furnishes detached corps on the defence of fortified towns on the frontiers, the service can only last for twelve months. In such cases, the national guard are subject to the laws of the army, and receive the same treatment and pay.

or infraction of the regulations, are applied by a council of discipline, composed of a captain, as president, a lieutenant or sub-lieutenant, a serjeant, a corporal, and a private.

The government furnishes clothing, arms, and equipment, on the demand of those who have not themselves the means to purchase their outfit.

The national guards wounded in the service are entitled to the same indemnities as the troops of the line.

The King has power to dissolve the national guard at his pleasure, either entirely or by companies in the different districts.

The object of the government in respect to this force is, to have it as much a local one as possible; and its formation is subject to the regulations most likely to effect this.

A commune where it is possible, furnishes a company, and the adjoining parts of it a subdivision of a company.

FORMATION OF COMPANIES.

SUB-DIVISION OF A COMPANY.

	14 years	15 to 20	20 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50
Lieutenants .	0	0	0	1	1
Sub-Lieuts. .	0	1	1	1	1
Serjeants . .	1	1	2	2	3
Corporals . .	1	2	4	4	6
Drummers . .	0	0	0	1	1

The ordinary force of a company is from 60 to 200 persons, according to the populousness of the locality; but if a commune can only furnish 50 men, that number forms a company.

A COMPANY CONSISTS OF

	50 to 80	80 to 100	100 to 140	140 to 200
1st Captain	1	1	1	1
2nd Captain	0	0	0	1
Lieutenants	1	1	2	2
Sub-Lieuts.	1	2	2	2
Serj. Major	1	1	1	1
Serj. Fourrier	1	1	1	1
Serjeants ..	4	6	6	8
Corporals ..	8	12	12	16
Drummers..	1	2	2	2

BATTALIONS.

A battalion must be formed of four companies at least and eight at most.

The staff of a battalion is as follows :—

A chef de bataillon.

Captain adjutant major.

A standard bearer sub-lieutenant.

A surgeon adjutant major.

An adjutant subaltern officer,

And a tambour maître.

If more than one company is formed in any commune the companies coming from the same commune cannot be allotted to different battalions.

In those cantons or towns where there are two battalions of 500 men each, these may be united into a legion, and in those communes which furnish more legions than one, these may be united under a commander-in-chief—who is named by the King.

All the officers up to, and including the captain in each company, are chosen by the persons designated to form it.

The chef de bataillon, and standard bearer of the battalion, are chosen by the officers and non-commissioned officers of that battalion.

The chefs de légion and the lieutenant-colonels are chosen by the King, out of a list of ten candidates, designated by the persons who choose the chef de bataillon.

These are the principal regulations in respect to this municipal force intended to be at once as an aid, a check upon the army of the line, and placed under the authority of the mayors, prefects, sub-prefects, as delegates of the minister of the interior;—who is to the national guard what the minister of war is to the army.

CENTRALIZATION.

CHAPTER XI.

Concluding Remarks.

I TRUST that I have not proceeded thus far, wading as a matter of necessity through many dry details, without conducting the reader, who has been patient enough to accompany me, to some knowledge of the matter we set out in quest of.

I mean, the civil and military administration of France—under a system of centralization.

We have seen the whole receipts and expenditure of the government managed by one

-

office, and the accounts of a country thus kept with the exactitude of a counting-house ; while every local budget is also brought under the eye of the executive, which learns in this manner, not only how much the state requires for its common purposes, but how much the village requires for its especial ones.

We have seen all the tribunals of the law centralized in a particular court, and the administration of the laws also centralized in a particular ministry ; the one preserving a universality in the decrees of justice, and the other, a universality in its motion.

We have seen too, the system which detects or prevents the crime in harmony with that which judges the criminal ; all the powers of pursuit directed by one hand, and all the duties of inspection centered in one great eye, which casts its regard over the whole empire, tracing by an especial process the footsteps of every individual, and watching with equal vigilance the petty felon who is stealing a watch, and the state criminal who is plotting a revolution.

We have seen the instruction of the people as well as the prosecution of the criminal, also considered a state affair, and entrusted to a ministry, the centre of a variety of ramifica-

tions, by which the branches of education are at once controlled and provided for

We have seen even commerce and manufactures connected by a series of links with the department which presides over their prosperity, carried from the country to the towns—from the towns to the capital, and in the capital placed under a public functionary with whom they communicate.

We have seen the administration of the interior of the country extending like so many branches from a parent tree—which defends the region where it flourishes from many evils by the extent of its vast shadow—but prevents the growth of many advantages, therein, by the extent of its vast roots.

We have seen, moreover, the elements of conquest combined in the same manner as the elements of peace. The military administration conducted on the same principle as the civil; and an immense army paid, punished, promoted, maintained, disbanded by one public officer, before whom every possible consideration is brought, and by whom every order is given.

The force which is to preserve France from aggression, is framed indeed on different principles from that which is to carry out its ideas

of conquest, but it has still, even in its local fractions, a connexion with the head of the state, and while the inferior officers are named by the people, its superior officers are chosen by the monarch.

The system of public receipt and expenditure in France, such as I have described it, the result of many experiments and alterations, is not only good in itself, but especially excellent for the country which adopts it, where long habits of financial speculation render it impossible to give great authority to subordinate functionaries, and yet where from the absence of local banks and the smallness of general credit, it is necessary that the government should make every effort for the local receipt and payment of all monies where it is possible and for their rapid circulation where it is not.

The judicial system possesses some faults doubtless, but is frequently blamed not because it is bad, but because it is badly administered.

There is no legal reason why the president of a 'court royal,' should assail a prisoner as if he were a prosecutor instead of judge—there is no legal reason why the judge of a court of the first instance, before whom a pri-

soner must appear within twenty-four hours after his capture, should keep that prisoner in confinement, if he ought to let him loose. Here we can only say that the law, though favourable to freedom, is not sufficient in many instances to counterbalance the manners which are favourable to power.

But, take the judicial system as a whole—with the superb fiction of a public ministry charged with the prosecution of crimes—and which extending throughout the kingdom, has a *procureur-du-roi* in every arrondissement, and a *procureur-général* in every judicial division—with the local courts that offer such an easy access to justice, and where the government, (as is generally the case) is not concerned, justice is invariably dealt out—with the prompt and conciliatory process on all minor civil cases, where the judgment of the magistrate is definitive—with the clearness, simplicity and unity of the law, which is maintained and defined by one ultimate and central court of appeal—take the judicial system as a whole, I say, and it must be admitted to contain great advantages, which might be rendered greater;—but which a people may be well content to purchase with some defects.

The criminal police, with its passports and

gendarmerie, considered as attached to the system I have just been mentioning, might be a wise and beneficent, but is an immense exertion of power; such as a community accustomed to it might do well to continue, but which it would be fatal to transmigrate to other countries, long accustomed to privileges of individual freedom.

The political police is, I feel convinced, at once dangerous and useless. It sometimes creates plots, it never discovers them when they are worth discovering; it destroys social confidence; it creates a perpetual suspicion of the executive power, and sometimes teases a nation into revolt when there really exists no great cause for disaffection.

The ministry of instruction, with that incongruity that pervades most of the French institutions, exercises rights the most arbitrary, and aims at objects the most popular. That the government should assume to itself the power of dictating to every private establishment the course of education they should pursue, and even the very books through which they should pursue it—would be considered by a nation such as ourselves, one of the most serious infringements of social liberty; on the other hand, that a state should charge itself

with the careful provision of education for every one of its inhabitants, the poor as well as the rich, offering every encouragement, whether in the military or civil service, or through literary institutions, for every successful exercise of talent and assiduity, is a policy so enlightened and so paternal, that it is difficult to distrust the hand it proceeds from. In fact, the abuses such a ministry might be guilty of, are checked by that public opinion it must create; but though a liberal legislator would propose such a plan without hesitation, I doubt much whether a country long accustomed to freedom would be willing to receive it.

The scheme of commercial administration has many benefits. It brings the minister into direct and practical contact with all the wants and defects of industry. It presents him through the means of a small and respectable body, with the state not merely of commerce and manufactures, but of the manufacturing and commercial classes throughout the country. It affords him the opportunity of sifting statements, and comparing interests. In short, it gives to an able man immense facility in thoroughly understanding that important branch of administration over which he presides. But it also gives to the interests of the producer

which are centralized and represented, a great superiority over those of the consumer, which are not so, and has, no doubt, had a sensible influence over the commercial policy which, in contradiction to our remonstrances, France still determines on pursuing.

The interior administration of the country which is, in fact, the administration of the minister of the interior, though I mention it last, more especially deserves our consideration.

Wherever the aristocracy is in England, the government is in France. The magistrates are paid by—and attached to—the government. The Lord Lieutenants are paid by—and attached to—the government. As far as this goes, there is much to say not only against but in favour of the plan. It collects power, but it collects responsibility also, round one authority. It extinguishes the influence of all petty and local passions, and it gives to the administration, which is answerable for the peace of the country, a proper control over those who are appointed to preserve it.

That even the mayor should be an officer appointed by the crown is defensible; for if otherwise chosen, he must in many places be an enemy of the state.

But the question most disputed and most disputable is the power which the government has, and which the government exercises, of interfering in all those minor affairs of expenditure and improvement which it would appear that the locality itself might best decide on.

Not only cannot a commune determine its own expenses without the consent of the minister or one of his deputed functionaries, it cannot even erect a building, the cost of which shall have been sanctioned, without the plan being adopted by a board of public works attached to the central authority, and having the supervision and direction of every public building throughout the kingdom.

The arguments in support of this are many and plausible. In the first place, its advocates say, "the power of the minister is only an economic one; he cannot compel the communes to any expense, but simply prevent or moderate the expenses they are anxious to incur. What motive can he have for exercising this authority that would make it likely that he should abuse it? Is he not rather likely to sanction, than to refuse an undertaking which the inhabitants of the place consent to, and which, if successful, illustrates his administration?"

Is not the board of works, too, composed of

skilful architects and engineers better able to furnish an elegant design, or to correct a bad one than the village mason?

Is it not in this manner, that France may be enriched, even in her remote hamlets, by the taste which presides in her capital; and edifices, really beautiful, erected at the same, or even at a less cost, than some monstrous pile of bricks and mortar would be, if provincial barbarism had no check put upon its inventions?"

All these are plausible arguments and easy to find, because, as there is no good without its evil, so there is no evil without its good. But they disappear at once, as merely involving small questions of detail when taking a broader view of the question, we look at human nature as the guide to legislation, and consider what breathes into a people, that spirit and that energy which are the real elements of national greatness. The Indians teach their children to swim by throwing them into the water beyond their depth. We learn most things in the same manner, by having to struggle against difficulties, and being left to our own resources.

What then is the consideration of a commune's accidental extravagance, or a prison's

or a hospital's inelegant construction, compared with that habit of acting for ourselves, and thinking for ourselves, and relying upon ourselves, which gives not only to individuals, but to nations, that invaluable moral property which we call "character," and which never abandons us in any moment of our lives.

Centralization in a government is an excellent thing, providing you can place a proper control upon it, where the object is general; but it is upon the whole a foolish and an inexpedient thing where the object is local.

Of the army, I have spoken at such length and in such detail, that if I pause upon it here again, it can only be to say, that the system under which it moves, seems the best calculated to give a terrible energy to this terrible force; which strange to say, is less likely to be hostile to liberty from the greatest innovation of its rights; for in forcing the citizen to become the soldier, we leave the soldier also in a great degree the citizen.

A militia or national guard is an institution well adapted to a military people, like the Prussians and the French, who amused by the drum and the uniform, give up their time without

reluctance, to bearing the duties of a soldier, while they retain all the tastes and principles of civil independence, guarding their country alike from the despotism of a native army, or the aggression of a foreign enemy. But to a nation of more commercial tastes and habits, it would be one of the greatest burthens perhaps, that could possibly be imposed. Venice, Holland, and Carthage, had in the days of their glory a mercenary force—so great, though they were brave, was their dislike to arms as a profession. And with us, who have no army to fear at home, and no aggression to apprehend from abroad, it would be difficult to find a more useless and odious, and (as it would be found to those whose time is more valuable than the pay of a soldier) a more expensive invention.*

I have thus passed, perhaps too hastily, over an immense system, the axis of which turning by a regular and uniform motion, brings to the army on a certain day its soldiers, to the national guard its officers, to the arrondissements and departments their councillors, to

* Colonel Davies, late M.P. for Worcester, had some idea, I believe, of making the proposition.

the communes their corporations, mayors, and adjuncts.

Take to pieces the machinery of this system—you will see, in spite of the symmetry of the whole, a vast diversity in the parts; some of which are of the most democratic, some of the most monarchical description.

No institution is so insignificant as not to be connected, in some way, with the crown—none so exclusive as not offer the highest honours to the people. The mayor of the smallest commune is the king's officer, and the son of a butcher, in a field marshal's uniform, is the chief officer in the royal palace.

It may be all very well to say that this is the same as in Turkey; there is as much difference between this and any thing that exists, or ever did exist in Turkey, as between any two things the most opposed: for the public spirit which prevails in France is in favour of intelligence and freedom, as the public spirit in Turkey is in favour of tyranny and ignorance. Besides, it is not the King who is all powerful in France, but the King's government. Here is a difference that may alter every thing—for the government is responsible before a body, which, according to the meaning of the constitution,

should be popularly elected, and in spite of which it cannot exist.

The improvements, indeed, that we may expect in modern legislation—lie in the proper combination of these two principles :—a great possibility of doing good, a strong check upon the power of doing evil.

It is to the chamber of deputies then that we have now to turn ; and if that chamber be not what it ought to be, *there* is the place where we should propose alterations.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

CHAPTER XII.

Right of Election—Mode of electing—Eligibility—Proceedings of the Chamber—Laws and propositions—Constituency considered and Chamber dissected.

WE have been led by the last chapter to the consideration of the chamber of deputies.

I shall first state its formation, attributes, and usages, and then consider it in general relation with the government, and the system of which it forms a part.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

Every Frenchman, aged twenty-five years, enjoying his civil and political rights, and pay-

ing 200 frs. of direct contributions, is an elector.*

The number of electors is ascertained by the following process, which answers to our registration :

From the first to the tenth of June the mayors of the different communes in their respective cantons meet in the chef-lieu of the canton, and there, with the aid of the collectors of the taxes, revise the list of the year preceding. This list is sent by the sub-prefect of the arrondissement with his observations to the prefect of the department before the first of July, who in his turn revises it, stating his reasons for the decisions he comes to ; the list is then printed, and deposited at the mayoralty of every commune by the 15th of August ; any claims then made are judged by the prefect in council, from whom there is no appeal but to a 'cour royale,' which however is obliged to decide the case definitively, and *without expense*.

* Officers in the army and navy, members and correspondents of the Institut, need only pay 100 frs.

Contributions counted as direct are the land tax, the personal and furniture tax, the door and window tax, taxes on patents, and every tax levied under the title of 'centimes additionnels.'

MODE OF ELECTING.

The chamber of deputies is composed of 459 deputies,* elected by 459 electoral colleges, each electing one deputy.

These colleges are convoked by the King, and in that town in the electoral arrondissement which he shall appoint; no discussion is allowed.†

The college elects its president and examiners, and the election commences. A list of the electors being fixed up in the place of election, the president calls on the electors by name and each receives from him a piece of paper open; on this piece of paper he writes the name of the candidate he prefers, folds it up, and gives it back to the president, who puts it in a box placed by him for that purpose.‡

* A deputy accepting a public office at home, vacates his seat, but not until the reunion of the electoral college, by which he is to be re-elected.

A minister changing from one public office to another does not vacate his seat.

† No armed force can be in the neighbourhood unless demanded by the college itself.

‡ As the elector does this, an examiner takes down his name, as having voted.

The box remains open for six hours, and is closed at 3 o'clock in the evening, when its contents are immediately examined.

1. The number of papers is compared with the number of persons who have voted.

2. An examiner opens each piece of paper, and gives it to the president, who calls out the name inscribed on it.

The result is then made public, and the papers burnt.

A deputy to be elected immediately, must unite one third of the total number of votes inscribed in the college, and one half of the votes taken in his favour.

If the scrutiny, having once taken place, does not produce this result, the bureau declares the two candidates who have got the most votes, and no other can then compete with them; the one who on the next trial has the bare majority is elected.* A college is opened for ten days; and every matter of dispute that occurs is taken down and submitted afterwards for decision to the chamber of deputies.

* Whenever there is an equal number of votes on this occasion, the eldest has the preference.

ELIGIBILITY.

To be eligible for the chamber,* the candidate must be thirty years of age, and pay 500frs. of direct taxes, (equal to an income six times the amount.) Half the deputies in a department must be chosen amongst those whose political residence is in that department.†

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CHAMBER.

At the commencement of every session, the chamber is divided by lot into nine bureaux, composed, as much as possible, of an equal number of members.

Each bureau names its president and secretary.‡

Each bureau discusses the question sent it by the chamber, and names a member to write

* Neither a prefect, a sub-prefect, nor a receiver-general, or a receiver of department, can be chosen deputy by the district in which he performs his functions. Neither general officers commanding divisions, nor procureurs-du-roi, nor procureurs-généraux, nor the directors of contributions, etc. can be elected within the sphere of their authority and jurisdiction ; nor if they quit such post, can they be eligible there till six months after the time of their having done so.

† When the contrary occurs, lots are drawn among the successful candidates.

‡ These bureaux are renewed every month.

a report of its opinion. When two-thirds of the bureaux declare themselves prepared, the reporters from each meet and discuss the questions amongst themselves, and then name a common reporter, who reports to the chamber twenty-four hours at least before the general discussion begins.*

For petitions there is a general commission : one member named by each bureau ; it makes its report every week, in which is included the name and habitation of the petitioners as well as the object of their request.

Except in case of dissolution, the legislative measures begun in one session continue on in the stage in which they were left, to the next.

The chamber is presided over by a president whom it chooses, and four vice-presidents.

LAWS AND PROPOSITIONS.

Every law proposed to the chamber by the

* Besides these different bureaux, there are commissions : one for the budget, for instance, which is formed of thirty-six members, four being named by each bureau of the chamber.

There will be to this commission as many reporters as there are ministers, each reporting on the expense of a particular minister.

King or the chamber of peers, after being read to the chamber is sent to the bureaux.

Every member who wishes to make a proposition must sign and depose it on the president's table to be by him communicated to the different bureaux.

If three of these are of opinion it should be developed, it will be read at the next sitting, and the deputy will fix the day when he will speak upon it.

If then approved of, it will be printed and sent back again to the bureaux, which discuss and report upon it.

On all laws the vote is secret, on other propositions it is open, unless members demand the ballot.

Here then is the chamber of deputies, proceeding with much clearness and regularity in its proceedings, having in many of its forms—the institution of its bureaux for instance—much that we ourselves might do well to consider, if not to imitate—having in the mode of its election also, the advantage of that ballot which we are here contending for, and which seems to be conducted with perfect safety and facility*—but only elected by persons, who

* The small number of voters of course aids this.

possess in property fifty pounds a year—i. e. who pay 200 francs of direct taxes—a proportion of about 173-4 electors, in a country containing 32,500,000 inhabitants.

Whichever way we consider this, the result seems equally injudicious.

In the first place, the more power you confide in the executive government (and in France, it appears necessary to confide a great deal of power to the executive government,) the more popular ought to be the sources from which that government rises, and the more national the control by which its abuses are to be prevented and judged.

Secondly. The more places which a government has at its disposition, and the government of France has all over France places to dispose of—the wider you must extend a representation which should be beyond such influences.

Thirdly. The more property is diffused, and property is as we have seen most widely diffused in France, the more safely can you diffuse political power also.

Fourthly. As is the great bulk of the people, so ought to be the majority of the representatives, and yet by so confined a qualification, you give the towns, about one fifth of the population, a majority in the repre-

sentation over the country where fortunes are more divided ; in short, I see no kind of reason ; except the shallow, though plausible one : viz. that if there are only 173,185 electors, here are only 126,353 who present themselves for the exercise of this right.

To a chamber taken by a phrase, this reason would suffice ; but to any person at all acquainted with the natural consequence of restricted and popular institutions—the argument used to shew the inutility of extending the suffrage demonstrates its necessity. Men act greatly by sympathy and emulation, and only take an interest in those affairs, about which they see their neighbours bestirring themselves.

The more restricted, therefore, you make the right of election, the fewer will be the persons anxious to exercise their right of electors ; and an unwarrantable apathy, in respect to public affairs, becomes the best argument against the system which produces it.

What then must be the consequences of a constitution which gives the greatest circumference to the government, and the narrowest basis to the constituency ?

The following is an analysis of the existing chamber ; which represents pretty correctly its condition :—

No. of votes at the last Elections in favor of.	Deputies.
37,966	216 juste-milieu.
21,982	125 third party.
4,005	25 legitimist party.
16,184	95 extreme left (or liberal).
<hr/> 80,137	
For persons not elected 46,216	
Total voted 126,353	
<hr/> Did not vote 46,832	
Electors 173,185	
<hr/>	

SOCIAL POSITION OF PERSONS RETURNED

ADMINISTRATION.	MAGISTRATURE.
6 Ministers.	19 Presidents.
2 Secrétaires généraux.	3 Avocats généraux.
2 Directeurs or inspecteurs généraux.	5 Procureurs généraux.
39 Mayors.	7 Procureurs-du-roi.
1 Adjunct.	26 Councillors.
<hr/> 50 Named by government.	8 Judges of civil tribunals.
37 members of councils general	4 Justices of peace.
not named by government	7 The court of accounts.
89	17 Employed in the council
	<hr/> of state.
	96 named by the government.
That is, named by government :	
Administration	50
Magistrature	96
	} 146

A R M Y.

- 1 Marshal of France.
- 13 Lieutenant-generals.
- 5 Camp-m Marshals.
- 7 Colonels.
- 5 Lieutenant-colonels.
- 2 Chief-of-battalion.
- 7 Captains.
- 3 Military Intendants.
- 1 Marine Prefect.
- 1 Captains of corvettes.
- 2 Engineers.

	}	146
45 more or less under go-	}	45
vernment influence.		—— 191

C O U R T.

- 4 Aides-de-camp to the King.
- 1 Ordonance officer to the King.
- 4 Servants of the crown.

9 named by government.	}	191
	}	9
		—— 200

- 4 Diplomacy.

Named by the government.	}	200
	}	4
		—— 204

Advocates.

Doctors.

Men of Letters. 55

Manufacturers.

Bankers.

Notaries, &c. 45

Persons without any particular

professions. 118

Not named by government.—216

Under government 204

Not under government 215

Such is the chamber !

Now in speaking of the places which the government had to give away, I stated them in the analysis to the first volume, at 55,000 ; this merely takes in the most considerable, since small places and large places taken together, there are in the ministry of finance alone above 57,000.

Still, for every place to be given away, there are three persons at least who expect to obtain it, while there are not much more upon an average than three electors to each place :—a constituency then is easily bribed by expectations from its representative, and a representative, as we have seen, meets with his recompense from the minister.

Thus the body I have been considering is not what it should be—a fair check upon the executive authority—by being a fair representation of public opinion.

SUMMARY.

CHAPTER XIII.

Review of past work—The amalgamation of different effects proceeding from different causes—Modern France, the consequence of former history and recent institutions—Whether the equality sprung from one and coloured by the other is compatible with free government—The effects of centralization and of a small constituency—Monarchy of the middle classes as it is, as it might be.

My title was ambitious ; I undertook a great task. Is it nearly completed ?—Doubtless much that I intended to say has been overlooked and forgotten ! much remains to say for which neither time nor space are allowed me ! and yet, reader, cast back your eyes over the road

we have traversed—the view is an extensive one.

Behold again that Paris which we saw from yonder heights of *Père la Chaise* crowded with bacchanalians, monks, cavaliers and mobs!—the recollections of fifteen centuries!

Behold again that people so gay, so witty, so warlike, and so vain, whose brow is chronicled with centuries, and whose character is still in its youth.

Behold again those revolutions, amidst which passed away a solemn and brocaded court—a terrible and sanguinary republic—a glorious and conquering empire—a prosperous but misguided monarchy!

Look at the influences which have survived; the literature, the religion, the philosophies which exist; the manner in which the soil of France is divided; the social condition which the French people enjoy; the species of government under which they are placed!—Look, I say, at these things—and here is the point where we should regard them, not one by one, but as a whole;—and combining the past with the present, try to comprehend a country motleyed by its manners, its laws, its history, its ideas!

We see a nation fond of change and of glory

from character; attached to luxury and elegance from education; a soil almost agrarianly distributed—making of its cultivators a people of proprietors, and a people of equals; a government concentrated in the hands of an executive authority, responsible before two tribunals—of which it names one, and must find it easy, except in extraordinary crises, to corrupt the other; and a public opinion founded on abstract rights, and daily more and more inclining towards liberal institutions.

In all this we have, in much, to modify the results of one circumstance, by the results of another! a nation fond of change may be given to violent revolutions:—but a nation of proprietors is hostile to violent revolutions. A people of equals may depress talent as a distinction, and banish elegance as a vice: but a people glorious and luxurious, honour Genius as a divinity, and give to Taste a temple among the Arts. A government concentrated in the hands of the executive authority, controlling the power which ought to control it, may become a despotism:—but a public opinion favourable to liberty, if restrained for a time by the fear of its own excesses, can never by any species of government be ultimately crushed. How shall I describe the amalgamation of so many op-

posing effects, springing from so many opposing causes?

Shall I say that we find the popular feelings of the street amidst the ancient habits of a court;—a terrible machinery for despotism amidst the modern sentiments of democracy?—before us, perhaps, is the spectacle of a people whose manners have been formed under an absolute government, and whose opinions tend to a republican government.

Indeed, in turning back once again to the volumes I am concluding, their subject seems fairly enough divided, like they themselves have been, into two parts;—the one referring rather to the effects of nature and of former times, the other rather to the effects of recent institutions.

Proceeding from the first—were those influences, female, literary, and military, which have made the French frivolous, literary, warlike. Proceeding from the second is—that custom of succession, which, whether we look at literature or the press addressing themselves to all classes—to the state, taking into its bosom all religions—to society possessing neither grandees nor paupers—establishes on all sides, and in all things, an equality—which imbibing the colours of preceding circumstances, makes the French people what they are.

I say ‘imbibing the colours of preceding circumstances,’ for simply to say that France is distinguished by the equality that reigns there, would not be sufficiently characterizing this peculiar nation.

That equality might exist elsewhere amongst simple tastes, as here it exists amongst ostentatious tastes,—or amongst peaceful desires as here amongst warlike desires—or amongst local popular institutions, as here under a centralized administration—or amongst ideas favourable to despotism, as here amongst ideas bordering upon licence.

Whether for good or evil—that equality must remain; for it is based upon the two things most difficult to alter: the distribution of property and the natural affections of the human heart. It has made the French a happy people; need it prevent them from being a free one? I say—it need not.

The centralized administration I have described may be favoured by it, but it is not caused by it. A people formed into a democracy may govern in their villages as in their capital. Of this America is an example—if they do not wish to do so, it is less because they are a democracy now, than because they have not been a democracy long; if they ought

not to do so, it is not because they are equal amongst themselves, but because they are divided amongst themselves, and that a delegated authority from the whole of the empire, is necessary to keep together its parts. Neither need such a system be necessarily, as I have elsewhere observed, one of despotism.

If the French ministry was the result of a majority of a chamber which represented the majority of the nation—that ministry, however powerful, would be merely the most efficient organ for working out the popular will. Nay more, if the French ministry are not this—the same cause which gives a danger to the tendency of centralization, places in reality, though not perhaps in appearance, a check upon its power.

A strong government is not merely a strong administrative machine for governing the affairs of a people, it must be a strong administrative machine that governs the people as well as their affairs. Held and directed by the hands of one man, or of twenty men, it must descend, if I may use such comparison, into the nation, like the wheel of yonder vessel descends into the waters; there is the force of that mysterious engine — in those free and stormy waves !

A government, I say, must be popular to be

strong, whatever the source whence that popularity springs.

Oh ! but Bonaparte !

Bonaparte did not indeed appeal to his people, through electoral chambers, and liberal laws ; such was not the genius of the man. He did not appeal to the reason—he appealed to the passions of the French, and the drum beating, and the tricolour flying, with victory in the van, all France followed his heels. If Bonapartes were common, charters would be waste paper.

A conqueror is beloved by a vain and martial race as long as he conquers ; he has little to study but the fortunes of his sword. When Kings too were anointed with a divine oil—the vice-regents of god upon earth—their authority was fixed in one of the deepest recesses of the human heart, and the distant barbarian worshipped the sovereign, whose sceptre was a scourge, as he did the god of the storm which devastated his plains.

It is passed—all this :—the most revered monarchs are but men ; and another Bonaparte may perchance arise in five hundred years.

Besides a nation cannot always be at war ; and to govern an active and intelligent people

in peace, you must give a vent to their intelligence, a vent to their activity—that activity, that intelligence should not be out of the government, or it will destroy the government—but within the government—where it will animate the government.

Why is the press formidable to the existing state of things? Because the press appeals to the whole country, and the constitution appeals to one person in every 11,850 throughout the country. Why is the police maintained? Because it is necessary to know what the nation is thinking and doing—and the national chamber can hardly be said to represent the nation. The most popular institution is put down, the most unpopular preserved, for the same reason. The strongest species of administration that can be invented is not strong, because it does not proceed from a sufficient number of those for whom it administers.

In summing up the whole system, then, I stand again before that great fault—a confined representation. It relieves the government from a salutary restraint, but it exposes the government to a continual danger: it gives the government the appearance of arbitrary power, and at the same time really cripples the government with just apprehension: it exposes the people to the

suspicion of oppression, and the state to the fear of resistance.

Let us look at the restoration !

From 1815 to 1830 the course followed was—not to choose a ministry from the majority of an assembly which represented the nation, but to obtain a majority in that assembly for some favourite minister in spite of the nation.

Thus cabinet after cabinet sustained itself. The men who had been accidentally called to power were not to be changed on any account—no; if any thing was to be altered, some fundamental part of the constitution might just be remodelled for the day, so as to disarm their opponents. The representative body became a mere political plaything. Mark the consequence !

M. de Villèle for a long time maintained his majority. But what was that majority? a veil between him and the nation he governed. Even he himself was actually blinded by that veil;—for a small constituency has this double disadvantage—*it is not inaccessible to public opinion while it deceives a minister as to the progress of that opinion.*

What is in the nation reaches it at last—

slowly, late, but it arrives. One morning the minister is in a minority in the chamber, which he has been accustomed to command; but this does not happen till he has been for years in a minority out of doors. Who then shall be his successor? a M. de Martignac—who cannot satisfy by concessions? A M. de Polignac—who cannot conquer by resistance?*

Still let us not exaggerate the evils which it is a duty to point out.

The monarchy of the middle classes, such as it exists in France, though susceptible of great improvements, is not a government (for the people to whom it is given) that can wisely be repudiated or justly despised. It has achieved, and if continued, will more perfectly perpetuate, that which legislation long deemed impracticable.

* But if a government is maintained by the army and the national guard! how is a government to know that it is supported by the army and the national guard? because they do not resist it? but men whose duty it is to obey will not resist, except in the most urgent cases, and at the latest moment.

When they resist the government, then the government cannot resist them; and thus only learns that it is disapproved by a fortunate revolution which upsets it. Surely, the science of legislation should produce some more happy result than this.

I mean, a constitution containing no privileged class, and yet, in which the monarch is not a cypher and the people are not slaves.

Such is the government at present ;—if called upon to state what it might be with more advantage, I should describe something not wholly different, but which giving greater solidity, perhaps majesty, to the throne, would give greater power to the people, greater independence and nationality to the chamber of peers.

I should say, in short, that the best government for France, without starting forth in quest of any of those extraordinary changes which are to produce theoretical perfection, would be *a popular and splendid monarchy, supported here by a national army, there by a citizen guard—administered by a centralized administration, and having for coadjutors—a chamber of Peers elected from the superiorities of the country, which would represent, as it were, its moral interests ; and a chamber of deputies, elected by a large constituency, which would represent its material interests.*

Such a government would be consistent with the manners and the ideas I have described ; it would make what belongs to old times compatible with the birth of new ; and by placing despotism under the legitimate con-

trol of a democracy, which now agitates society in opposition to the law—render possible the union of free institutions, with a confidence in the executive power.

Such a government would no doubt have its faults; but it would accord with all the predominant feelings of the French nation; and, at such a government, if the present dynasty be not overturned by some violent shock, it will—even in spite of itself—arrive.

POLICY OF PRESENT ADMINISTRATION.

CHAPTER XIV.

The existing government in France a government of resistance, and why it is so—Considered as to where it should resist, and how resist—Has resisted open violence, popular representation and the press—How far justifiable—Recent laws against the Press—How far wrong—Character of administration—Necessary policy of government.

HAVING spoken of the present state and probable prospects of the existing monarchy, I am called to the consideration of the policy by which it is now supported.

I confess that this subject is one of difficulty, and that I approach it with no common diffidence in my judgment—no common hesitation,

let me add, in respect to publishing my opinions—since they differ very essentially, as well from the party by whom the present French administration is attacked with unqualified violence, as from that party by which it is with equal violence defended.

The nature of all revolutions is to beget—however necessary they have been, and however sagely they may have been conducted—a tendency to revolutions; for men always imagine they can again attempt with success, that which they have seen done in their own time with facility. It is equally certain that no country can prosper under a perpetual series of revolutions; it follows, therefore, as a matter of course, that the ministry which succeeds a revolution, will be by duty and position, more or less a ministry of resistance; or, as I said, nearly two years ago—“the life of a prince, sprung from a popular convulsion will be almost always passed in struggling against popular concessions.”

Indeed, if we look at that revolution in England, with which the late French revolution has been frequently compared—we shall find that severe laws against liberty were not wanting under the government of a monarch,

from whose accession to power notwithstanding,—our liberties spring.

It is idle then to expect what neither history warrants, nor human nature accords. Moreover, if revolutions were ever likely to have had enemies to oppose, and agitations to subdue, it was the revolution of July. The government founded on our revolution of 1688 rested in some sort on a religious enthusiasm; the government founded on *that* revolution of 1830 had *no enthusiasm* in its favour. The superstitions of old times, favourable to hereditary right, and of new times, inclined to impossible perfection, were equally against it. The present government in France then is, I repeat it, essentially and necessarily, what its defenders have frankly declared—*a government of resistance*. The only questions that can arise, are: where it should resist—how it should resist.

Open violence must of course be met by violence; but it is no small praise, and ought to be no small pride to the party which through different men, has almost uninterruptedly ruled—that as yet—five years having elapsed—three rebellions having taken place—not a single political scaffold has recorded the triumph of a dominant faction.

There are not many such examples in all history !

The course of civil resistance adopted, has displayed itself on two points—a refusal to extend the elective franchise beyond its present limits—and an attempt to restrict the press within narrower bounds than it was inclined to assign itself.

My own humble opinion in respect to the electoral law has been expressed, and I own that I deem a small constituency in a constitutional government, a very great danger and a very great evil, inasmuch as that it places that government in a false position, and does not afford it the warning or the assistance it would derive from the popular sentiment, having a more faithful organ of expression.

I own that I think some alteration ought to take place—*must* at no distant time take place on this subject—still the government established in 1830, though not walking with rapidity, did make a great step even on this point beyond the government which preceded it ; and the present constituency of about 173,000, however small, is more than double the constituency of about 80,000 to which it succeeded.

That the doctrinal administration should resist here for a time then—may be wrong in

some of our opinions—is wrong in my opinion—but it hardly affords any just ground of violent reproach : for I am willing to admit that the result of nearly all revolutions (there are some exceptions) has been lost—when lost—by the principles on which they were founded, having been carried out too suddenly and too far ; and I also grant, that if there be any people in the world to whom freedom should be, if I may use the expression, cautiously measured out—it is that people, more than any other, volatile, capricious, prone to excess—amongst whom it is most necessary to create habits—and yet amongst whom habits are, with the most difficulty, created.

I come to the press and the conduct, more especially within these few months, pursued towards it.

Now as for the object which the government had in view by that conduct, it appears a legitimate one. The laws brought forward were professedly only aimed at these things ;—to preserve the person of the sovereign from abuse—and the principle of the monarchy from assault.

A state owes it to its own dignity to preserve, if possible, its first magistrate from indecent lampoons, and it can hardly be blamed for sheltering, and, if necessary, de-

fending—not the manner in which the government is administered, but the principle on which it is founded. Resistance to the press in both these cases then, would seem justifiable, if it were likely to attain its end by means justifiable also.

Here we arrive at that question — “ *how should the government resist ?* ”

I said but a short time since, that the best defence for those who refuse to sanction immediate constitutional changes rests on this ground—that it is desirable above all things, for a people who, in fifty years, have never ceased changing every thing, to acquire at last, the habit, even if what exist is not the best, of conserving something.

But if change be undesirable who should give the example of enduring inconvenience ? the minister who tells the people to pause before attempting to make their institutions yet more liberal, ought to be most careful in shewing that he is as scrupulously determined not to make those institutions less liberal.

The rule then which should guide any administration in their resistance to alterations in the charter is—*the charter*. Now there are some who think by the laws lately passed that this charter has been evaded in one

instance, and violated in another. The evasion they say consists in giving the appellation of 'high treason' to certain offences of the press, which are thus brought before the chamber of peers (forming a court in that peculiar instance) whereas the offences of the press were, by the constitution, expressly assigned to a jury—the violation, they say, consists in changing the constitution of the jury itself, which jury formerly voted openly, and now votes secretly, which jury formerly condemned by a majority of four, and now condemns by a majority of one. I do not, for my own part, either adopt or defend any exaggerated party charges, still I cannot help thinking that any great fundamental alterations for a momentary object must be unwise ; more especially when it is wished to keep the public mind in an even course within certain constitutional channels, which channels, if you dam them up for a time, will be afterwards dangerously overflowed. They unsettle and confound people's opinions also, and make them consider that nothing is sacred, or superior to the exigencies of the hour.

Besides, they have another evil ;—it is almost always necessary that they should be followed by measures of a similar nature : for they

create exaggerated suspicions which must be met by exaggerated defences and precautions, until a minister on one side, and a people on the other, are driven into a course contrary to the inclinations, the interests, and the intentions of either.*

* This is a question of policy which should be well considered before we proceed to laws of repression.

Will they protect us ?

To repress the *expression of opinion* is not to repress *opinion*.

There is a singular fact, to which, as it furnishes no mean argument of this, I call attention :

Under the empire the secret police cost .	789,000,000
Under the restoration from 1814, to 1818	56,000,000
Afterwards, about	2,400,000
Under M. de Martignac	1,700,000

Thus in almost an exact proportion with the silence imposed, was the watch which it was found necessary to maintain.

There is another consideration not to be forgotten. A minister should well penetrate himself with the spirit, and give to himself as it were, the character and the nature of the government which he administers ! A despotism when it is attacked, acts with sense in being despotic ; it is constituted expressly for such crisis, and has all the power that is necessary for crushing every enemy, and stifling every cry. But a government of popular forms can never long depart from the principles on which it is founded : it may exercise a power

It is on this account, indeed, that we should be more particularly regretful of late events ; and here I speak, not merely as a man anxious for the prosperity of a fine and intelligent portion of the human race—but as an Englishman also anxious for the maintenance of that friendship between two nations—first at the present epoch of the world in arts and arms—whose alliance has afforded peace to Europe, and protection to the growth of liberal institutions in both countries.

That that alliance is chiefly one of opinion we well know ; and yet some English journals have been lately thought treasonable in France ! Deeply then do I regret the circumstances which have caused this. But would I say nothing disrespectful of the ministry, from whose views in some respects I differ.

In those volumes published in 1834, I observed that this ministry would be difficult to replace ; and the short administration of three

foreign to its nature for a particular time, but that temporary power, given with reluctance, is too feeble to destroy the opposition which it silences. The road of violence in such governments then is short, and they who take it are almost sure to find the hostile passions which they drive before them in their march, collected and furious—where they pause.

days, which made its sudden appearance, and disappearance last year, shewed I was not mistaken.

It is formed of able and intelligent, and conscientious men, the greater part of whose lives has been passed in struggling for those principles to which they now, I trust but for the moment, appear opposed:—opposed, however—not, I do believe, with any evil or tyrannical intention, but from a disgust at absurdities it were wiser to overlook, from a sudden dread of difficulties almost overcome, and also, perchance, from that impatience of character which they share with their countrymen in general, and which seems the national impediment to freedom and repose.

One there is more especially, born of the revolution of 1830, whose elevation fortune favoured, and who was endowed with many of those qualities which design the leaders for troublesome times. Assailed by the most atrocious calumnies, that private envy could suggest, his talent broke through the jealous fetters that would have depressed it, and carried him at once to a high position in the country, of which he had studied the history—knew the character, and possessed in his love of the arts, in his passion for glory, in his

native eloquence and amiability—all the means of governing with success ; surrounded by a generous youth whose hearts he might have won, and whose ardour he might have moderated, admired by a monarch whose cultivated tastes were in sympathy with his own, and holding out the hand of good fellowship to the people from whose ranks he had sprung—that minister, might have been—I trust may yet be—precious to his country.

There are certain perils which governments, placed in a peculiar position, are forced to undergo ; and the monarchy of July—chosen, in the heat of a revolution, from three parties—must expect the enmity of those whom it was preferred to, and of those whom it does not represent ; still it has one advantage : its duties are clearly pointed out ; its position plainly determined. This monarchy has to preserve the honour of France with peace ; the internal tranquillity of France with constitutional government. It stands as the representative of justice, moderation, legality, amidst the violence of contending passions and the tumult of perpetual crisis. *There is its glory, there its danger.* When reproached with its moderation, its love of peace and order, it is performing the task assigned to it ;—a task difficult, but honourable ;

and which, owing to the courage and the discretion of its defenders, it seemed at one moment certain of accomplishing.

But a government that wishes to perpetuate itself, must above all things be faithful to its origin! One man wished to be an emperor among emperors—and he fell;—for he was naturally the popular chief among a people of soldiers. Another man wished to be absolute monarch over a nation which had received him as its constitutional king—and he fell;—for his charter was—his crown.

That charter, picked up from the pavement, where it had fallen, and blessed by a new sanction, was again placed—a popular diadem—upon the head of a monarch—justly chosen for his citizen-like virtues, his probity, his firmness, his regard for his duties and engagements. Elected by the multitude who had conquered, he was consecrated by the press for which they had fought.

His lot is to conciliate his power with the causes of his power! that he will do so is the belief—that he may do so is the prayer of one who, no wrangler for theoretical perfection, no advocate for successive changes, deems that having once been chosen sovereign, the continuance of his reign is best

adapted to the prosperity of his country and the general interests of civilization and mankind.

Placed on the French throne, the head of the house of Orleans carried there many of the qualities of a great prince; prudent, eloquent, instructed, courageous, he has the prospect of leaving a dynasty in repose, beneath the protecting shadow of an illustrious name.

Yet is there no foundation for our affairs in desperate courses. Public as well as private life has an usurious policy—which, to satisfy the emergencies of the instant, borrows too largely from the times that will come.

Let all ministers beware of this policy! it saves for the moment—but it ruins in the end, and is equally unworthy of a people who love freedom, and of a monarchy which, with the aid of time and Providence, is well calculated to couple liberty with order.

POSTSCRIPT.

CHAPTER XV.

Two comparisons between France and England.

AND now, France disappearing from our view, as I turn, not unwillingly homewards, it may not be incurious to enter, though but cursorily, into certain comparisons that this work suggests :—i. e. to consider how far England and France resemble one another at this moment ;—what period in French history admits the semblance of a parallel with that which will soon be English history, and is at this time passing before us.

At the present moment there can be no doubt that it would be impossible to find

two countries, which, with institutions apparently similar, are so entirely different as those I have just mentioned. This is easily accounted for—the character and history of the two people are different, and the distribution of property amongst them is also totally different;—on these three things, which fashion society, and social habits—the movement, if not the form, of government depends. There is liberty and a powerful aristocracy in one country—a powerful aristocracy will never submit to slavery;—there is equality and a democracy in the other—a democracy will never tolerate privileges. Money and birth are respected here; power and talent there. The law does in point of fact and practice subject the poor man to the rich man in England; the law does in point of fact and practice subject the individual to the governing authority in France. In either case the theory of the law would not do this. In France too, the lower classes have property, and are tranquil and independent; the higher are comparatively poor and servile. Talent, whether in arms, or literature, or through the press, governs both. In England, the lower class is daring, factious, and intelligent—the higher, prejudiced but high principled, and certainly not meanly avid of power—a middle

order running between them, has hitherto kept these two extremes together.

In France again, you meet the government every where—the gend'arme—the prefect—the police. In England all your affronts and annoyances come from individuals—the great man elbows you, the pauper taxes you, the pickpocket plunders you. On one side of the channel the great man takes off his hat to the government, and asks for a place, but he calls his valet ‘his friend,’* and would not refuse to fight a duel with his ‘decorated’ coachman. On the other side of the channel, the great man snaps his fingers at the government, sends the poacher to prison for a pheasant, and pays respect to nothing, save some greater man than he is : viz. somebody better born or wealthier.

Much of this will no doubt alter with time in both countries : nor is it difficult to feel, as I write, that we breathe the quiet air of great, but healthy changes.

This brings me to consider what foundation there exists for that other comparison, not rarely made, between the period in France of 1789, and that of England in 1835.

In 1789 there was in France—a nobility

* “ Mon ami ! ”

much indebted, too prone to idleness and dissipation, far alienated by haughty and exclusive habits from the provincial influence it had once possessed—but proud, courageous—unwilling to take a place in the new society which had grown up above it; lower than that which its ancestors occupied in the old society they overshadowed—a nobility which in the days of its power menaced the authority—in the days of its decay lived upon the bounty—and in the hour of its unpopularity clung to the protection—of the crown.

At this period also there was in France a middle class rising rich, ambitious, and disgusted at the pride of an order whose privileges had lost their charm.

An active race taken from all classes, save the aristocracy, and who, eager for employment, found in the army, in the church, in the colonies, in politics in general, that the road was obstructed to all but the peculiar set they did not belong to.

A people without property, and from a variety of circumstances (those which are operating in England, are different from those which had been operating in France) utterly without attachment to the possessors of the soil.

A church, independent of the state, with immense funds most unequally distributed—furnishing a worldly provision to the aristocracy, rather than a spiritual comfort to the people.

Corporations that had outlived their purposes, already attacked in principle and but weakly defended, even by the patrons of existing things.

A public opinion strongly in favour of changes amongst the great masses of the nation, and a public opinion as strongly against innovation amongst the fashionable circles of society.

In the royal family—one prince an advocate of liberal principles (the Comte de Provence) ; another forming secret societies in the army (le Comte d'Artois).

In the senate—a nobility defending itself by a distinguished and eloquent man sprung from the people (Casalès) ; a people assailing that nobility, and headed by the great aristocracy of the land—the Montmorencys, Noailles, Lafayette, Mirabeaus, Périgords.)

So far some persons might fancy they traced a likeness ; but, as we advance further, all resemblance disappears : for France had not a prudent monarch brought up in constitutional principles, nor a sober-charactered people, who

had received a long political education, nor a bold and intelligent minister, equally remarkable for the sagacity of his views and his frank and manly manner of carrying them into execution.

Yet, if our comparisons fail, we shall have found in their pursuit two important lessons, really coinciding, if apparently opposed.

The one—that no class can stand against the liberal intelligence of its time :

The other—that a people adopting false and exaggerated notions of liberty may delay for a century the real enjoyment of it.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX

LAW CONSTITUTING THE PEERAGE OF THE MONARCHY OF THE REVOLUTION.

29th December, 1831.

Louis Philippe, King of the French, to all present and
to come *salut !*

PAGE 100.

The President of the Chamber of Deputies and other
legislative assemblies.

The Deputies who shall have been named in three
different Parliaments, and who shall, for six years, have
exercised their functions.

The Marshals and Admirals of France.

The Lieutenants-General and Vice-Admirals of the
armies of land and sea, after two years' rank.

The Ministers of any Department.

Ambassadors after three years' and Ministers Plenipo-
tentiaries after six years' functions.

Councillors of State, after ten years of ordinary service.

The Prefects of Departments or of marine situations —after six years' service.

Colonial Governors after five years' exercise of their functions.

The Members of General Councils formed by election, after three elections to the presidency.

The Mayors of towns, of thirty thousand souls and above, after two elections, at least, as members of the municipal body, and after five years' performance of the functions of mayoralty.

The Presidents of the Court of Cassation and of the Court of Accounts.

The Procureurs-Généraux to these two courts, after five years' service in this quality.

The counsellors of the Court of Cassation, and the *conseillers-maîtres* of the Court of Accounts, after five years.

The Avocats-Généraux to the Court of Cassation, after ten years exercise of their duties.

The Premiers-Présidents of the Cours Royales, after five years' of magistracy in their courts.

The Procureurs-Généraux to the same courts, after ten years' functions.

The Presidents of the Tribunals of Commerce, in the towns of thirty thousand souls and above, after four nominations to these functions.

The titular members of four academies of the Institut.

The citizens to whom, either by any law or on account of eminent services, there shall have been given a national recompense.

All Proprietors or Heads of any manufacture, or any

commercial house paying 3,000 francs of direct contributions, either on account of their landed property during three years, or on account of their patents during five years, when they shall have belonged for six years to a chamber of commerce of a 'conseil-général.'

Proprietors, manufacturers, traders, or bankers, paying 3,000 francs of imposition, shall have been named Deputies of Judges of the Tribunals of Commerce, *can be admitted at once as peers without any other condition.*

The Titulary who shall have successively exercised the functions above mentioned, can add up their services in all their different branches of employment, in order to complete the time necessary to their elevation.

It shall be dispensed from the time of employment required by the paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, and 17, above mentioned, the citizens who shall have been named in the year following the 30th July 1830, to the functions announced in these paragraphs, shall be dispensed in the same manner until the 7th January 1837, from the time of employment required by the paragraphs 3, 11, 12, 21, the named or maintained since 30th July 1830, in the functions announced in these five paragraphs.

These conditions of eligibility can be modified into a law.

The ordinances among peers shall be individual. The ordinances shall mention the services and state, the titles on which the nomination shall be founded.

In future, no salary, no pension, no donation, shall be attached to the dignity of peer.

The Present Law discussed, deliberated, and adopted

- by the chamber of Peers, and by that of the Deputies, and sanctioned by us this day shall be executed as a law of the State.

L. PHILIPPE.

Palace of the Tuileries, 29th Dec. 1831.

LOI SUR LA PRESSE.

(1) *Loi du 17 mai 1819, art 1^{er}* “ Quiconque, soit par des discours, des cris ou menaces proférés dans des lieux ou réunions publiques, soit par des écrits, des imprimés, des dessins, des gravures, des peintures ou emblèmes vendus ou distribués, mis en vente, ou exposés dans des lieux ou réunions publiques, soit par des placards et affiches exposés aux regards du public, aura provoqué l’auteur ou les auteurs de toute action qualifiée crime ou délit à la commettre, sera réputé complice et puni comme tel.”

(2) *Code pénal, art. 86.* “ L’attentat contre la vie ou contre la personne du roi est puni de la peine du parricide.—L’attentat contre la vie ou contre la personne des membres de la famille royale, est puni de la peine de mort.—Toute offense commise publiquement envers la personne du roi, sera punie d’un emprisonnement de six mois à cinq ans, et d’une amende de cinq cents francs à dix mille francs ; le coupable pourra en outre être interdit de tout ou partie des droits mentionnés en l’article 42, pendant un temps égal à celui de l’emprisonnement auquel il aura été condamné. Ce temps courra à compter du jour où le coupable aura subi sa peine.”

Art. 87. “ L’attentat dont le but sera, soit de détruire

soit de changer le gouvernement ou l'ordre de succésibilité au trône, soit d'exciter les citoyens ou habitans à s'armer contre l'autorité royale, sera puni de mort."

(3) *Loi du 17 mai 1819, art. 9.* " Quiconque par l'un des moyens énoncés en l'art. 1^{er} de la présente loi, se sera rendu coupable d'offenses envers la personne du roi, sera puni d'un emprisonnement qui ne pourra être de moins de six mois, ni excéder cinq années, et d'une amende qui ne pourra être au-dessous de 500 francs, ni excéder 10,000 fr.—Le coupable pourra en outre être interdit de tout ou partie des droits mentionnés en l'art 42 du Code pénal, pendant un temps égal à celui de l'emprisonnement auquel il aura été condamné. Ce temps courra à compter du jour où le coupable aura subi sa peine." Voir ci-après (6).

(4) *Loi du 29 novembre 1830, art. 1^{er} :* " Toute attaque par l'un des moyens énoncés en l'article 1^{er} de la loi du 17 mai 1819, contre la dignité royale, ordre de succésibilité au trône, les droits que le roi tient du vœu de la nation française, exprimé dans la déclaration du 7 août 1830, et de la charte constitutionnelle, par lui acceptée et jurée dans la séance du 9 août de la même année, son autorité constitutionnelle, l'inviolabilité de sa personne, les droits et l'autorité des chambres, sera punie d'un an d'emprisonnement de trois à cinq ans, et d'une amende de trois cents francs à six mille francs."—Art. 2 : " L'article 2 de la loi du 25 mars 1822 est et demeure abrogé."

(3) *Loi du 17 mai 1819, art. 8 :* " Tout outrage à la morale publique et religieuse ou aux bonnes mœurs, par l'un des moyens énoncés en l'art. 1^{er}. sera puni d'un emprisonnement d'un mois à un an et d'une amende de 16 fr. à 500 fr."

(6) *Code pénal, art. 42* : “ Les tribunaux, jugeant correctionnellement, pourront, dans certains cas, interdire en tout ou en partie l'exercice des droits civiques, civils et de famille suivans : 1° de vote et d'élection ; 2° d'éligibilité ; 3° d'être appelé ou nommé aux fonctions de juré ou autres fonctions publiques, ou aux emplois de l'administration, ou d'exercer ces fonctions ou emplois : 4° de port d'armes ; 5° de vote et de suffrage dans les délibérations de famille ; 6° d'être tuteur, curateur, si ce n'est de ses enfans, et sur l'avis seulement de la famille ; 7° d'être expert ou employé comme témoin dans les actes ; 8° de témoignage en justice autrement que pour y faire de simples déclarations.”

(7) *Loi du 9 juin 1819, art. 9*. “ Les propriétaires ou éditeurs responsables d'un journal ou écrit périodique, ou auteur ou rédacteur d'articles imprimés dans ledit journal ou écrit, prévenus de crimes ou délits pour fait de publication, seront poursuivis et jugés dans les formes et suivant les distinctions prescrites à l'égard de toutes les autres publications.” *Art. 10*. “ En cas de condamnation, les mêmes peines leur seront appliquées : toutefois les amendes pourront être élevées au double, et en cas de récidive portées au quadruple sans préjudice des peines de la récidive prononcées par le Code pénal.”

(8) *Loi du 18 juillet 1828, art. 3* : “ Seront exempts de tout cautionnement :

“ 1° Les journaux ou écrits périodiques qui ne paraissent qu'une fois par mois ou plus rarement.

“ 2° Les journaux ou écrits périodiques exclusivement consacrés, soit aux sciences mathématiques, physiques, et naturelles, soit aux travaux et recherches d'érudition,

soit aux arts mécaniques et libéraux, c'est-à-dire aux sciences et aux arts dont s'occupent les trois académies des sciences, des inscriptions et des beaux-arts de l'Institut royal.

“ 3° Les journaux ou écrits périodiques étrangers aux matières politiques, et exclusivement consacrés aux lettres ou d'autres branches de connaissances non spécifiées précédemment, pourvu qu'ils ne paraissent au plus que deux fois par semaine.

“ 4° Tous les écrits périodiques étrangers aux matières politiques, et qui seront publiés dans une autre langue que la langue française.

“ 5° Les feuilles périodiques, exclusivement consacrés aux avis, annonces, affiches judiciaires, arrivages maritimes, mercuriales et prix courans.

“ Toute contravention aux dispositions du présent article sera punie conformément à l'art. 6 de la loi du 9 juin 1819.” (Voir note 9.)

(9) *Loi du 9 juin 1812, art. 6.* “ Quiconque publiera un journal ou écrit périodique sans avoir satisfait aux conditions prescrites par les articles 1, 4 et 5 de la présente loi, sera puni correctionnellement d'un emprisonnement d'un mois à six mois, et d'une amende de deux cents francs à douze cent francs.”

(10) *Loi du 18 juillet 1828, Art. 8 :* “ Chaque numéro de l'écrit périodique sera signé en minute par le propriétaire, s'il est unique ; par l'un des gérans responsables, si l'écrit périodique est publié par une société en nom collectif ou en commandite ; et par l'un des administrateurs, s'il est publié par une société anonyme.— L'exemplaire signé pour minute sera, au moment de la publication, déposé au parquet du procureur du roi du lieu de l'impression, ou à la mairie dans les villes où

il n'y a pas de tribunal de première instance, à peine de cinq cents francs d'amende contre les gérans. Il sera donné récépissé du dépôt.—La signature sera imprimée au bas de tous les exemplaires, à peine de cinq cents francs d'amende contre l'imprimeur, sans que la révocation du brevet puisse s'ensuivre.—Les signataires de chaque feuille ou livraison seront responsables de son contenu et passibles de toutes les peines portées par la loi à raison de la publication des articles ou passages incriminés, sans préjudice de la poursuite contre l'auteur ou les auteurs desdits articles ou passages, comme complices. En conséquence, les poursuites judiciaires pourront être dirigées, tant contre les signataires des feuilles ou livraisons, que contre l'auteur ou les auteurs des passages incriminés, si ces auteurs peuvent être connus ou mis en cause.”

(11) *Loi du 25 mars 1822, art. 11* : “ Les propriétaires ou éditeurs de tout journal ou écrit périodique seront tenus d'y insérer, dans les trois jours de la réception, ou dans le plus prochain numéro, s'il n'en était pas publié avant l'expiration des trois jours, la réponse de toute personne nommée ou désignée dans le journal ou écrit périodique, sous peine d'une amende de 50 fr. à 500 fr. ; sans préjudice des autres peines et dommages-intérêts auxquels l'article incriminé pourrait donner lieu. Cette insertion sera gratuite, et la réponse pourra avoir le double de la longueur de l'article auquel elle sera faite.”

ALL PASSAGES OR WORDS NOT TRANSLATED
IN THE TEXT WILL BE FOUND AMONG
THE FOLLOWING :

MANNERS.

PAGE 7.

NOTE.—My drawing-room again had its crowds, and I once more had the pleasure of conversation, in Paris, which I confess was always, to me, the most captivating of all.

PAGE 12.

Monsieur ———, with much gesticulation, and uttering loud outcries from his bench.

PAGE 13.

Here the President rings his bell.—At this moment the chamber is in confusion.

PAGE 19.

His voice, which more than once had carried terror to the palace whence it had cast out tyranny, might carry terror also to the souls of those traitors who desired to substitute their tyranny in place of the monarchy.

PAGE 22.

Yes, a fine school of anatomy.

PAGE 23.

Oh! the charming little man, as hé was! How white his teeth, like pearls; small—yes, small—delicate hands—perfumed! How elegant the little man was—and how great an eater!

PAGE 26.

At all events I can continue Julia, and my phaeton. But what is the matter with him? He adores Adela—What fine children!—and why did not they tell me of it?—She will not return again until it is over—All will be soon well.

PAGE 31.

Poor fellow! down he fell, dead!

PAGE 34.

The poor Princess gave such fine balls.

Conjugal virtue. Virtue in a married woman, is to continue attached to her lover even though he is disagreeable to her.

YOUNG FRANCE.

PAGE 56.

Head of hair.

SOCIAL STATE.

PAGE 89.

Nevertheless estates in possession, which form the grants for support of hereditary titles, which the Em-

peror shall have made to a Prince, or to the head of a family, must be transmitted to the heir [as an entailed estate.]

PAGE 96.

We did not wish to burden the country with eighty thousand tyrants, but only three hundred individuals whom we wished to invest with high functions. That was all.

PAGE 97.

The gods we have at present are Science and Art ; we are excited in the theatres and the court as we once were in the churches : the heart which formerly was obedient to priests, we now consecrate entirely to philosophers and poets.

STATE OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

PAGE 110.

The poor's rate was raised compulsorily.

PAGE 128.

That France has the blessing of not being distracted by those dissensions, which in other countries cause discord betwixt the workmen and the manufacturer who employ them.

EQUALITY.


PAGE 131.

All men are equal and free from their birth ; no one has a greater right than others to employ his natural or

acquired talents ; this privilege partaken by all, is alone limited by the conscience of the man exercising it, which forbids him to make any use of it to the detriment of his fellow-men.

THE END.

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